

## Chad talks heading for deadlock

BRAZZAVILLE (R) — Peace talks on Chad appeared deadlocked Wednesday as the two main factions continued to dispute each other's claims to be the country's legitimate government. No serious discussion on how to end 20 years of civil war in the Central African country had taken place as a preparatory meeting for a full conference of rival Chad political and military groups entered its fifth day, conference sources said. The delegation representing the 28-month-old regime of President Hissene Habre insists the conference is a meeting of Chad's legal government with opposition groups. But the Transitional Government of National Unity (GUNT), ousted by Mr. Habre's troops in June 1982, said it alone was entitled to speak in Chad's name, describing Mr. Habre as a rebel.

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## Masri sends message to Tunis

TUNIS (Petra) — Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri sent a message to his Tunisian counterpart Baji Jaidi Sibi dealing with Arab affairs. The message, delivered to Mr. Sibi by Jordan's Ambassador here Nabih Al Nimer, explained Jordan's views about Arab developments and called for more coordination among Arab countries vis-a-vis these developments.

## Tremor reported in Karak

AMMAN (Petra) — The seismological centre at the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) has registered another tremor in the south of Jordan. A spokesman for the centre said that the tremor was centred 12 kilometres north-west of Karak at 9:57 p.m. Tuesday. The tremor registered 3.9 degrees at the Richter scale, and was felt by many local inhabitants, but no damage to property or loss of life was reported, the spokesman said.

## Rocket fired at Israeli position

TEL AVIV (R) — A rocket was fired at an Israeli army position near Nabatiyeh in South Lebanon Wednesday but caused only slight damage, an Israeli army spokesman said. Israeli troops searched the area and found a rocket launcher about five kilometres from Nabatiyeh, he added.

## Israelis hold crucial talks

TEL AVIV (AP) — Government, industry and Labour leaders opened crucial talks Wednesday aimed at repairing the country's damaged economy, but Labour representatives said they oppose important elements of the government's proposals on a wage-price freeze. Prime Minister Shimon Peres' bipartisan cabinet wants to reduce cost-of-living increases to salaried workers for the next six months, to freeze prices for six weeks and to keep price hikes during the following 20 weeks below the rate of inflation.

## Greek court votes to extradite Palestinian

ATHENS (R) — Greece's Supreme Court Wednesday decided in favour of extraditing a Palestinian wanted by Italy in connection with an attack on a Rome synagogue two years ago. The verdict, by five votes to none, was in the form of advice to Greek Justice Minister George Mangakakis, who has the final say on whether to extradite Abdul Salam Osama Al Zomor, a student in Rome at the time of the attack.

## Pakistan denies troop build-up

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistan Wednesday dismissed as "totally fictitious" Indian press reports that it was reinforcing its troops along the two countries' tense border in Kashmir. A government spokesman denied a report Tuesday by the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency saying Pakistani troops were pouring into the border area and digging trenches in a no-man's land there.

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## PLO leader to discuss prospects for PNC

# Arafat arrives for consultations

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat arrived here Wednesday for consultations with Jordanian leaders on the current situation in the Palestinian arena and prospects for convening an early meeting of the Palestine National Council (PNC), the Palestinian parliament-in-exile.

Mr. Arafat, who arrived here after a five-nation tour of the Gulf, told reporters on arrival that he will discuss with His Majesty King Hussein the situation in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip and efforts for convening the much-delayed 17th session of the PNC.

In reply to a question whether the PNC session will be held in Amman, Mr. Arafat replied he was going to discuss the matter with King Hussein.

Mr. Arafat told a news conference in Doha earlier this week that the PNC was likely to be convened in Amman or Baghdad.

Mr. Arafat's arrival in Amman Wednesday also raised speculation that a meeting of the Central Committee of Fateh, the mainstream command movement within the PLO, will be held here.

Four members of the Fateh Central Committee — Khaled Al Hassan, Mahmoud Al Abbas, Rafiq Al Naiche and Khalil Wazir — were already in Amman when Mr. Arafat arrived. It was believed that Hani Al Hassan, and PNC Deputy Speaker Salim Zannoun, two other members, arrived along with the PLO chairman. Three other members, Salah Khalaf, Farouk Kaddoumi and Hayel Abdul Hameed, were in Tunis.

## PLO leader seeks OIC summit on Gulf

MANAMA (AP) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, fresh from talks with Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, on Wednesday was "pushing hard" for an emergency meeting of the seven-nation Islamic Organisation of Conference (OIC) in line with his bid to avert further escalations in the 49-month-old Arab-PLO sources reported.

The PLO leader met with Saudi Arabia's King Fahd Tuesday. After two consultation conferences with the secretary general of the 45-nation Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) in line with his bid to avert further escalations in the 49-month-old Arab-PLO sources reported.

## McFarlane predicts further anti-U.S. attacks in Mideast

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Robert McFarlane, national security adviser to President Ronald Reagan, says he would put the probability of another attack, like the one in Beirut in September, somewhere between before the election "at about 70 per cent."

In an interview on the NBC-TV's "The Today Show" Tuesday, Mr. McFarlane said he thought the prospects were "that there will be further attacks not only in Lebanon in the short term but elsewhere in the Middle East."

The four failed to appear at the AP office in west Beirut after one of them, driver Moheddine Habbal, left before 7 a.m. (0500 GMT) to pick up two of the others in mostly Christian east Beirut and

Syrian and "national alliance" objections to Mr. Arafat's leadership have been holding up the convening of the PNC, which met last in February. The council was scheduled to hold its 17th session in Algiers under stipulations made in an organisational and political agreement between Fateh and the "democratic alliance." The agreement, reached in Aden late June and initiated in Algiers in mid-July, was rejected by Syria and the "national alliance," which maintained that Mr. Arafat should step down before the PNC could meet.

Under Syrian pressure, Algeria, which had earlier agreed to host the council session, has been showing reluctance to allow the PNC meet in Algiers. However, PLO sources told the Jordan Times Wednesday that the Algerian government has officially invited secretaries general of all Palestinian factions to attend celebrations marking the 30th anniversary of the Algerian revolution early next month.

The sources also said that it was probable that the secretaries general, in effect the leaders of the factions, might hold consultations in Algiers on the prospects of convening the PNC.

Mr. Arafat was met upon arrival in Amman by Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Shawkat Mahmoud and Foreign Ministry Protocol Department Director Tareq Madi. PLO Representative in Amman Brigadier Abdul Razak Al Yahya, Palestine Liberation Army (PLA) Commander Colonel Na'im Al Khatib and prominent Palestinian leaders living in Jordan also were at the airport to welcome the PLO leader.

Opponents want Arafat out before PNC meets, page 4

## Israelis arrest West Bank resistance 'organiser'

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli occupation forces have arrested a "high-ranking Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) official" allegedly involved in organising resistance activities in the occupied West Bank. Israeli military officials said Wednesday.

The arrest several weeks ago of Ali Khalil Rabai ended a 15-year chase for the man whom Israel believes headed "commando recruitment and operations" in the West Bank town of Hebron and the surrounding area, one official said.

The military official was unwilling immediately to answer further questions on the arrest. Hebron has been a frequent flashpoint between Jewish settlers in the city and Palestinians opposed to their presence.

Last year a Jewish seminary student was killed by unidentified men in Hebron's central market. In a "revenge" attack several weeks later, gunmen opened fire on Palestinians in the city's Islamic college, killing three students.

Last month five Israelis and two Palestinians were wounded in a commando attack on an Israeli bus near Hebron.

## 4 AP employees missing in Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Four Lebanese employees of the American news agency Associated Press (AP) disappeared in Beirut Wednesday, apparently in the capital's western sector, AP chief Middle East correspondent Terry Anderson said.

He said it was believed the men had been kidnapped or seized, but it was not known by whom.

The four failed to appear at the AP office in west Beirut after one of them, driver Moheddine Habbal, left before 7 a.m. (0500 GMT) to pick up two of the others in mostly Christian east Beirut and



Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, who arrived in Amman Wednesday, is received by Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Shawkat Mahmoud, (to Mr. Arafat's right) and Jordanian and Palestinian officials (Petra photo)

## Damascus rules out direct or indirect talks with Israel

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria said Wednesday it would not enter into direct or indirect negotiations with Israel over the withdrawal of Israeli troops from South Lebanon.

On Tuesday, Israeli Radio quoted Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin as saying he believed Syria was willing to negotiate with Israel to reach agreement in Lebanon.

Commenting on the statement, Damascus Radio said Wednesday: "Syria will not enter into direct or indirect negotiations with Israel... The Syrian position is clear. It does not need repetition."

The radio described Mr. Rabin's statement as part of "a psychological warfare."

It said Syria insisted Israeli forces should withdraw unconditionally from South Lebanon, which they have occupied since June 1982.

The radio said Damascus also refused any role for the Israeli-backed "South Lebanon Army" (SLA) in areas vacated by the Israeli troops.

"Lebanon is a Lebanese concern. Syria will not allow itself to speak on behalf of Lebanon or reach agreements in its name," the radio added.

In a speech to American Jewish fund raisers, Mr. Rabin was quoted as saying by Israeli Radio that the Syrians have reasons for wanting to reach an agreement with Israel on "security arrangements."

The United States will play a more vital role after the November presidential elections to reach an agreement in Lebanon, Mr. Rabin predicted.

Prime Minister Shimon Peres has said Israel will withdraw unilaterally from parts of South Lebanon but has indicated Israeli troops would remain in east Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, 25 kilometres from Damascus, unless Syria agrees to "security arrangements."

Israel, Syria have made up for losses in Lebanon, page 4

## Gemayel briefs cabinet on talks in Libya, Italy

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanon's President Amin Gemayel told the cabinet Wednesday he had discussed with officials in Rome the possibility of Italian participation in a future role for U.N. forces in Lebanon, government sources said.

Mr. Gemayel visited Rome Tuesday on his way back from a one-day visit to Libya.

He told the cabinet his talks in Rome covered "an evaluation of the coming phase in view of the strong relations between our two countries, and the possibility of Italy participating in a role which U.N. forces may assume in the future," the sources reported.

Italy contributed 2,000 troops to a multinational peacekeeping force sent to Beirut after the 1982 Israeli invasion. It has had only a 44-man logistic unit with the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) since the peacekeeping troops were withdrawn in February.

U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar has proposed an expanded role for UNIFIL in maintaining "security" should Israeli troops withdraw from South Lebanon.

Mr. Gemayel also told the cabinet that during his talks in Libya, which he described as positive, he briefed Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi on "the effective and positive role played by Syrian President Hafez Al Assad in helping Lebanon... and Libya agreed with the need for cooperation and unity of ranks," government sources said.

Meanwhile, former Lebanese President Suleiman Franjeh has asked the Pope to press Washington to work towards an Israeli

withdrawal from South Lebanon and Arab territories occupied since the 1967 Arab-Israeli war.

Mr. Franjeh, speaking at his stronghold in the north Lebanon town of Zghorta, told reporters Tuesday he made the request in a congratulatory message to Pope John Paul on the anniversary of his succession to the papacy.

Mr. Franjeh said he told the Pope: "The Middle East will never know a just peace and permanent stability as long as Israel continues to occupy South Lebanon and Arab territories."

The Lebanese National News Agency reported Tuesday that Soviet Charge d'Affaires Yuri Soudikov told Lebanon's parliamentary speaker, Hussein Al Hussein, Moscow was prepared to discuss any Lebanese proposals on the role of U.N. forces in Lebanon.

Meanwhile in Damascus, President Assad discussed the situation in Lebanon with Lebanese Shi'ite Muslim leader Nabih Berri Wednesday, the official Syrian news agency reported.

Mr. Berri, minister of state for South Lebanon and reconstruction, arrived in Damascus earlier Wednesday.

Mr. Berri met with Mr. Assad at the Mohajereen Syrian government palace in Damascus and then later headed back to Beirut.

The Syrian news agency said their talks dealt with efforts to bring about a Muslim-Christian reconciliation in Lebanon to end its nine-year civil war and ensure an Israeli withdrawal from the occupied southern third of the country.

## Balance of payments shows deficit

AMMAN (R) — Jordan's overall balance of payments showed a \$1.54 million deficit (\$128.2 million) deficit in the first quarter of this year, the Central Bank said Wednesday.

This followed a deficit of 5.5 million dinars (\$13.7 million) the previous quarter and a 7.7 million (\$18.2 million) surplus in the first quarter of last year, the bank said.

## British coal foremen call off strike plans

LONDON (R) — Pit supervisors Wednesday called off a planned walkout that would have totally paralysed Britain's strike-hit coal industry from Thursday, a union official said.

Peter McNestry, general secretary of the union representing 17,000 men responsible for essential safety checks underground, told reporters that the decision by his national executive was unanimous.

He said it expressed satisfaction over negotiations held with the state-run National Coal Board Tuesday on a peace formula to avert the walkout that would have closed all pits still operating in the 33-week-old strike by militant miners.

A ballot of the National Association of Colliery Overmen, Deputies and Shotfirers (NAC-

## Mitterrand urges fresh arms talks

LONDON (R) — French President Francois Mitterrand Wednesday urged the superpowers to open fresh talks on reducing their nuclear arsenals.

Mr. Mitterrand was addressing a joint sitting of both houses of parliament in the sumptuous gilded Royal Gallery of the House of Lords on the second day of a state visit to Britain.

The president chose the keynote speech of his four-day visit to launch his appeal to the United States and the Soviet Union.

"It is first of all up to the most powerful to cut back their forces... the reopening of talks is a matter of urgency," Mr. Mitterrand said in the course of a 15-minute speech.

He also praised Britain's "democratic traditions" and its "defence of freedom" in World War II and said: "Here at Westminster, how is it not possible to recall what democracy owes to Great Britain?"

Mr. Mitterrand made an appeal for European unity and said: "The

## Mubarak: Another summit with King planned

CAIRO (AP) — President Hosni Mubarak was quoted here Wednesday as saying he would hold a second summit with King Hussein shortly to discuss a new joint strategy for Middle East peace.

"I believe that we will meet again within a short time and after this we shall launch a move toward the United States and other countries," Mr. Mubarak said in an interview with the London-based Saudi Arabian newspaper Ashraq Al Awsat.

Mr. Mubarak underlined the need for further consultation with Jordan to agree on "the style of approach" in advance of the coming U.S. presidency term.

He said any delay in formulating a joint strategy would be costly but did not give any indication about specific details of the strategy he had in mind.

Jordan restored full diplomatic relations with Egypt late last month, becoming the first to do so among 17 Arab countries which ruptured ties with Cairo in 1979 after Egypt's 1979 separate peace treaty with Israel.

The Jordanian move prompted criticism by some Arab countries particularly Syria and Libya that Jordan was going to subscribe to the policies of the Camp David peace process but Jordan has denied this and joint statements on the first meeting between King Hussein and Mr. Mubarak, held in Amman two weeks ago, refrained from adopting any position on future Arab-Israeli negotiations.

Mr. Mubarak also urged the Palestinians to come out with a peace initiative of their own.

"The Palestinians must move now," Mr. Mubarak said. "I'm not demanding concessions but only an initiative that would help in moving the (Palestinian) cause and working out a solution."

On another issue, Mr. Mubarak said he doubted that Libya would honour an agreement with France for a mutual pullout of Libyan and French troops from Chad.

"Libyan intentions are not clear," Mr. Mubarak said. "This may be a tactical move pending the convocation of the African summit conference but other things which I don't look forward may happen after the summit."

He said Libya already provided a precedent by cooling down the Chad issue prior to the last African summit and then invading Chad after the summit ended.

The strangest marine circus in the world, The Florida Show Circus, opens in Amman today.

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# Heseltine reports wide ranging talks with Mubarak on Mideast

CAIRO (R) — British Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine Wednesday said he had discussed wide-ranging Middle East topics with President Hosni Mubarak but declined to comment on the extent of military cooperation between the two countries.

Speaking to reporters after his 45-minute meeting with the Egyptian leader, Mr. Heseltine said: "We have had a very wide-ranging discussion about the problems that exist here in the Middle East and the way in which our two countries can continue the excellent relationship and cooperation which they enjoy."

He would not elaborate nor provide details on the volume of Anglo-Egyptian military cooperation saying this was not a matter for public discussion.

Mr. Heseltine arrived in Cairo Tuesday on a three-day official visit for talks on boosting military cooperation between Egypt and Britain.

Mr. Heseltine also met separately with Egyptian Defence Minister Field Marshal Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala, who was present at the meeting with Mr. Mubarak.

Britain took part in international minehunting operations in the Red Sea at Egypt's request after at least 18 vessels reported blasts in the waterway between July and September and Cairo is known to be in the market for sophisticated mine-detecting vessels.

Mr. Heseltine would not say if minehunters had been requested by Egypt but said Britain would be willing to help.

"I wouldn't want to discuss in public the requirements of the Egyptian Armed Forces, it is up to them," he said. "If we can help, we obviously will be prepared



TALKING ABOUT ARMS — British Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine (centre) confers with Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak (left) and Egypt's Defence Minister Abdul Halim Abu Ghazala. Afterwards, Mr. Heseltine told reporters Britain was prepared to continue supplying Egypt with weapons and would welcome more joint military exercises. (AP wirephoto)

## Iraq confirms pact with Turkey

BAGHDAD (R) — Iraq confirmed Wednesday it had agreed with neighbouring Turkey on joint action against Kurdish rebels in border areas, which it said included possible pursuit into each other's territory.

Turkey earlier reported the agreement following a visit to Baghdad by its Foreign Minister, Vahit Halefoglu, on Oct. 14 and 15. It also wants a similar agreement with Iran, but Tehran has ruled out such a move.

Iraq's Culture and Information Minister, Latif Nassif Al Jassim, quoted by Baghdad Radio, said Wednesday that under the three-point pact troops of either country could cross the common border to

chase "the subversive groups."

He said such action would be allowed "in the event of maximum necessity" for a limited distance of five kilometres within a three-day period.

Mr. Jassim said another point was "to fight those corruptive elements on the basis of cooperative relations" and to guarantee the security and stability of their common border.

The third point was coordination and exchange of information related to guaranteeing the security and stability of their border territories in the future.

In Baghdad, Mr. Halefoglu met Iraqi President Saddam Hussein, but the Iraqi side gave no details of their talks.

According to reports from Ankara, the Turkish army has been continuing operations in its eastern region following raids on two Turkish towns by Kurdish guerrillas in August. The rebels are said to have killed 18 soldiers since the operation began.

NATO-member Turkey conducted a cross-border operation against Kurdish rebels in Iraq last year.

## Abu Qoura asks ICRC to help Jenin hospital

AMMAN (Petra) — President of the Jordanian National Red Crescent Society Ahmad Abu Qoura has appealed to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) to organise help required for completing work on a hospital in Jenin in the occupied Arab West Bank.

Dr. Abu Qoura made the appeal following a report he had received on the obstruction by Israeli authorities of building the much needed hospital in the Arab town.

The report said that the Zionist authorities have refused to allow such hospital to be erected without consent by the occupation authorities, and also lack of funds have impeded progress in the construction work.

The report, sent to Dr. Abu Qoura by the president of the Jenin Red Crescent Society said that the 40-bed hospital would not be built unless sufficient funds were made available, and Israeli approval given.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) had earlier classified the Jenin hospital among the priorities in the region's health schemes. Dr. Abu Qoura said.

## 'Bonn to continue aid to Jordan'

AMMAN (Petra) — West Germany will continue to give aid to Jordan and to bolster relations between the West German and Jordanian peoples, West German Ambassador to Jordan Hermann Munz said here Wednesday.

The ambassador was addressing a group of Jordanians who have just returned from training courses at West Germany's Friedrich Naumann Foundation.

He praised the strong relations between West Germany and Jordan.

dan and said these relations are progressing and developing in various fields.

Dr. Munz expressed hope that the group will benefit from their courses and contribute towards further promoting Jordanian-West German cooperation.

Also addressing the group at a meeting was the embassy's cultural attaché, Mr. Alfred Protz, who said the group received high training at the West German foundation in radio, television and press affairs.

Other speakers included the director of the Goethe Institute in Amman and Mr. Walter Rudel, representative of the Friedrich Naumann Foundation who reviewed the activities and programmes of the foundation which was established in 1958, and which aims at promoting understanding and cooperation among nations and helping Third World nations to carry out social and economic development schemes.

## Morocco reportedly planning defences

PARIS (R) — Over 10,000 Moroccan troops have been massed in the disputed Western Sahara where they will build a new line of defence along the Algerian frontier, according to the official Algerian News Agency monitored here.

The agency quoted two Moroccan army sergeants taken prisoner by Polisario guerrillas during an attack on Oct. 13 against Moroccan defence lines near the stronghold of Zag.

Sergeants Abdullah Al Kacemi and said Darif were quoted as saying the Moroccan army planned to build the new defence line from

Akka in south east Morocco through Mahbess to Bir Lahlou in the Western Sahara.

Mahbess is a small outpost, built when the area was a Spanish colony, on the frontier between Algeria and the Western Sahara and about 55 kilometres west of the Algerian town of Tindouf.

According to the Algerian agency, the sergeants said the new line was designed to seal off the Algerian frontier and was to be built by four crack mechanised infantry regiments.

The new line of defence would be the fourth built by the Moroccan army this year to establish

its control over the northern part of the Western Sahara and protect all area towns and phosphate mines.

The agency said the attack on the Zag area, where several kilometres of Moroccan defence lines were overrun by guerrillas, was part of an offensive launched by the Algerian-backed Polisario fighting Morocco for control of the former Spanish territory.

But the agency did not say whether there had been any fighting since the Oct. 13 attack. Nor did it say where the two Moroccan prisoners were interviewed.

## TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION	BBC WORLD SERVICE
<b>MAIN CHANNEL</b> 17:00 ..... Koran 17:15 ..... Cartoons 17:30 ..... Children Programmes 18:00 ..... Chajna 18:00 ..... Programme Review 18:40 ..... News Programme 20:00 ..... News in Arabic 20:30 ..... Local Competition Programme 21:30 ..... Towards Tomorrow 21:40 ..... Arabic Play 22:00 ..... News in Arabic 22:10 ..... News Continued	06:00 Newsday 06:30 Classical Record 06:45 Newsday 06:55 Financial Review 06:55 07:00 Newsday 07:10 World News 07:10 07:20 Newsday 07:30 World News 07:30 07:40 Newsday 07:50 World News 07:50 08:00 Newsday 08:10 World News 08:10 08:20 Newsday 08:30 World News 08:30 08:40 Newsday 08:50 World News 08:50 09:00 Newsday 09:10 World News 09:10 09:20 Newsday 09:30 World News 09:30 09:40 Newsday 09:50 World News 09:50 10:00 Newsday 10:10 World News 10:10 10:20 Newsday 10:30 World News 10:30 10:40 Newsday 10:50 World News 10:50 11:00 Newsday 11:10 World News 11:10 11:20 Newsday 11:30 World News 11:30 11:40 Newsday 11:50 World News 11:50 12:00 Newsday 12:10 World News 12:10 12:20 Newsday 12:30 World News 12:30 12:40 Newsday 12:50 World News 12:50 13:00 Newsday 13:10 World News 13:10 13:20 Newsday 13:30 World News 13:30 13:40 Newsday 13:50 World News 13:50 14:00 Newsday 14:10 World News 14:10 14:20 Newsday 14:30 World News 14:30 14:40 Newsday 14:50 World News 14:50 15:00 Newsday 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## NEWS IN BRIEF

## Weekly accident toll rises to 14

AMMAN (Petra) — Fourteen people were killed and another 82 were injured as a result of 189 road accidents which occurred throughout the country during the past week, according to the weekly statistical bulletin issued by the Public Security Department. The bulletin pointed out that 142 accidents of these occurred in Amman.

## ARC to hold talks with World Bank

AMMAN (J.T.) — Aqaba Railway Corporation (ARC) Director General Sahel Hamzeh left Amman Wednesday for talks with World Bank officials regarding the bank's contribution towards financing the Shidieh phosphate project to be set up in the south of Jordan as well as studies conducted by the project's consultants. The Shidieh mines are expected to produce three million tonnes of phosphates annually starting in 1990 and increasing to nine million tonnes before the end of this century.

## Oweidat encourages young folk groups

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Culture, Youth and Antiquities Abdullah Oweidat Wednesday presented gifts to three members of the Prince Ali Group from the Sweileh Folk Arts Troupe who participated in the Third Jerash Festival. Dr. Oweidat said that this initiative is aimed at encouraging innovative talents of children. The group, established in 1983, comprises 10 children who are amateur singers, musicians and actors.

## Jordan invited to ACSDRAT seminar

AMMAN (Petra) — The Department of Meteorology has received an invitation from the Arab League Arab Centre for the Study of Dry Regions and Arid Territories (ACSDRAT) to take part in the second Arab seminar on agricultural meteorology scheduled to be held in the Syrian capital of Damascus on Nov. 10. The 10-day seminar will discuss working papers which deal with the importance of meteorology in agriculture as well as bases of training and improving the standard of those working in this field.

## Mine workshop comes to Amman

By Meg Abu Hamdan  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Royal Theatre Club, under the presidency of Mrs. Ginny Youkan, while never making the news headlines, nevertheless is quietly working away at its objectives and this week it brings a first to Amman — a workshop in mime, masks, clowning and movement.

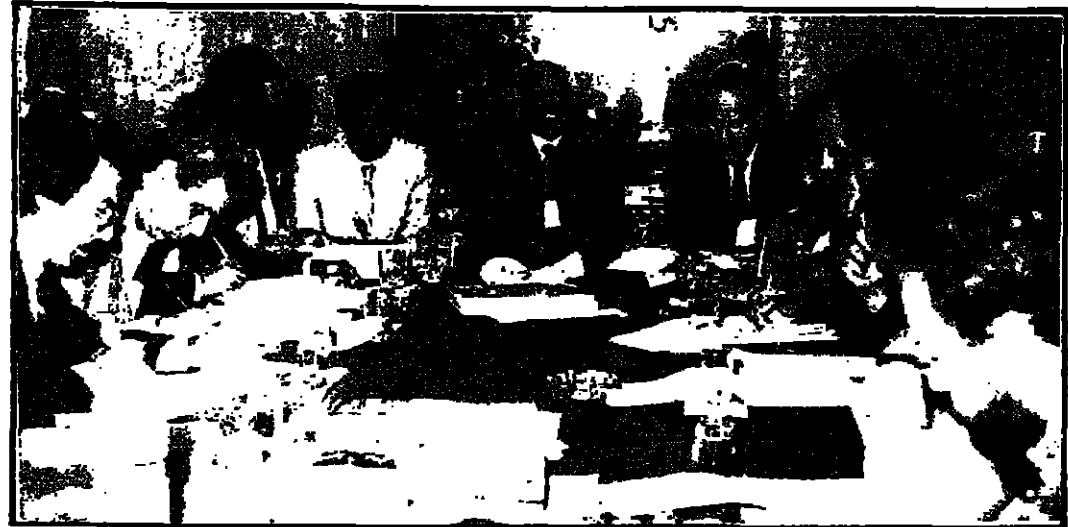
The 10 day workshop at the Royal Cultural Centre is being run by two well-qualified Americans who flew in from the States. Dollee Mallare and Debbie O'Carroll. Both live and work in Boston, Massachusetts, where Debbie is an M.A. in mime, teaches at two public schools and where Dollee takes workshops in clowning and tap dance for adults at the Institute of Contemporary Dance in Cambridge and at the "Dancebase" in Boston. Dollee also does a lot of tap dance choreography as well as helping professional actors with character development and with special individually worked-out

dance routines. Apart from the times Dollee is freelancing as a clown at openings and conventions, the couple work together as "Mime Music", performing once or twice a week all over the New England area in schools, theatres and festivals.

People here in Amman will have the opportunity to see the kind of show they give on four afternoons over the next two weeks, on Oct. 25 and 26 and on Nov. 1 and 2. The performances take the form of short character scenarios which involve music, clowning and dance and mime.

"Our show has elements of classical mime," Dollee told the Jordan Times, "but we have also assimilated all the different teachings to make our own style. Thus we use props, music, colourful costumes, sets and even a few spoken words," she said.

"We use a lot of humour in our show," Debbie continued. "In the States we have two shows that teach the children first-aid and we find humour is a very powerful



Director General of the Inter-Arab Investment Guarantee Corporation (IAIGC), Mr. Ma'moun Hassan (centre) speaks at a press conference Wednesday during which the recommendations of a symposium on Arab investments were issued (Petra photo)

## Jordan considered suitable for Arab investment, IAIGC director says

AMMAN (Petra) — The Inter-Arab Investment Guarantee Corporation (IAIGC) considers Jordan as a suitable ground for Arab investment since it provides a good infrastructure for such investment and has an advanced financial and monetary system. IAIGC Director General Ma'moun Hassan said here Wednesday.

Mr. Hassan was speaking at a press conference held at the Regency Palace Hotel to announce the recommendations of an Arab symposium on taxes on investments in Arab countries. He said that Jordan was the first Arab

country to enact legislations for protecting investors, which he said, indicates a genuine commitment on its part to Arab economic agreements.

The major development projects implemented in Jordan are going ahead in a very satisfactory manner and have gained Arab investors good returns, Mr. Hassan said.

The symposium on handling taxes on investments was designed to discuss incentives for investments and ways to overcome problems that impede them and also the proper manner to encourage such investments. Mr. Hassan said. He also spoke about the dangers of confiscation, nationalisation and the adverse effects of civil wars and other disturbances on the chances of investment, and called on Arab countries to invest in the Arab World in order to help develop the Arab nation's social and economic sectors.

## Incentives

Mr. Hassan said that the sym-

posium called on Arab states to adopt policies for providing incentives and encouraging investments in general. Arab states should also allow for free transfer of funds to be used for financing economic and social development projects, Mr. Hassan said.

The introduction of a tax system on investments is bound to help to encourage investments in general, since taxes reflect the country's genuine desire to have such investments to provide a constant financial source of income creates confidence in the investors and the host country where the investment is made, and proves that the country is sincere in protecting foreign capital and foreign investment in it. Mr. Hassan pointed out.

In this way, he said, the foreign investors are assured that the investment has become a basic part in the country's economic infrastructure and an indispensable source for financing the host country's development.

## Postal symposium delegates issue recommendations

AMMAN (Petra) — A symposium on international postal accountability which ended here Wednesday has urged Arab states to find jobs for Palestinian graduates of the Higher Arab Post Office Institute and the Arab Post Office College. It also called on post office employees in the occupied Arab territories to refrain from cooperating with the Israeli occupation authorities and to foil Zionist plans.

The recommendations, read out by the vice president of the Arab Post Office Employees Federation, followed a two-week seminar in which most Arab countries were represented in addition to

the federation. One of the recommendations urged the Universal Postal Union (UPU) to issue a handbook for calculating fees for international postal services, in accordance with an agreement signed in Hamburg earlier this year.

Earlier, Ministry of Communications Under-Secretary Mansour Iba Tarif addressed the participants and said that the seminar was designed to raise the skills and to improve the performance of post office employees in Arab states. The participants toured telecommunications projects and looked into post offices services in Jordan.

## Jordan University reviews cooperation with Canada

AMMAN (Petra) — Strengthening cooperation between the University of Jordan and Canadian universities was the subject of discussion in a meeting held at the university Wednesday between University of Jordan Acting President Mahmoud Al Samrah and Canadian Foreign Ministry Middle East Relations Officer Yvonne Jobin. Attending the meeting was the first secretary at

the Canadian Embassy in Amman, Mr. David Malone. Dr. Samrah briefed the guest on the university's history, development and its interaction with local and Arab societies as well as its ties with various world universities and centres. Mr. Jobin also visited the university's strategic studies centre where he was briefed by its President, Dr. Kamel Abu Jaber, on its activities.

## Organisation signs agreement for handicapped centre

## GUVS to launch extensive social projects for the needy

By Anne Counsell  
Jordan Times Staff Writer

AMMAN — The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) will launch a nation-wide campaign Saturday to collect clothes, furniture, food and household items which will be distributed to needy people as part of the GUVS Social Cooperation Campaign in Jordan.

GUVS Secretary-General Abdullah Al Khatib told the Jordan Times that the campaign's slogan, "if you don't need it, we do," sums up the idea behind the collection scheme. "We will take anything that people do not want or need and we will use it to help those less fortunate than ourselves," he said. Volunteers from 70 societies throughout the Kingdom will collect the items, wash, mend and sort them for distribution mainly in the slum areas, the rural regions and in the West Bank.

Dr. Khatib said that the idea is based on a similar programme carried out by the Salvation Army in America and emphasised that the whole operation will be run entirely by volunteers. He said that the success of the project depends on the contributions made by individuals, families, institutions and companies who will be asked to donate to the scheme. An extensive media and information campaign will also be launched in the coming few days to draw attention to the programme.

The items will be collected from houses by volunteers. Members of the public can also take items to the 25 collection points or may telephone the GUVS central office if they have clothes or furniture they would like to donate. The offices will open for ten hours every day to receive any items people may wish to give.

## Request to foreigners

Dr. Khatib also issued a special request to all foreigners in Jordan asking them to consider the GUVS programme when they are leaving the country. He said that any household equipment, clothes or children's toys that are not wanted, or being taken abroad, be given to the organisation for distribution to the needy. He emphasised that one toy or one shirt makes a difference to someone and that anything, large or small, would be gratefully accepted by GUVS.

Dr. Khatib estimates that approximately 10 per cent of Jordan's population is living below an undefined "poverty line, and added that, as in most developing countries, the rich are getting richer and the poor are getting poorer. He believes that a lot more could be done but that an increased awareness of the problems facing some sectors of the population is needed.

Trying to create more public awareness is the idea behind another GUVS project, "the one

The centre will be opened on Nov. 15. Dr. Khatib said that the centre will cost about JD 100,000 per year to run and that GUVS is currently trying to raise funds for this project.

## Senior citizens

GUVS has also recently established a village for senior citizens. The Ministry of Agriculture is expected to donate between 30 and 50 dunums of land for the project for which the designs have been completed. Dr. Khatib said that because more young people are studying and living abroad, there is less of a family concern for older people. He emphasised that the village will not be a place where "old people want to die", but rather an active, social centre where the old are living and doing something for themselves, and perhaps for society.

The organisation is also involved with setting up a factory for the blind, a project which resulted from a visit to Bulgaria last month when GUVS representatives met with Bulgarian specialists involved in this field. An anonymous Jordanian donor has bought a factory which will employ blind people to manufacture car filters. A team of Bulgarian experts are due to arrive in Jordan at the end of this month to organise the factory following an agreement and registration with the Jordanian government. Dr. Khatib said. The donor has specified that the factory will be owned on a joint shares basis by all the blind workers in the factory.

While GUVS is continuing to be very active in all fields connected with social welfare, they are still in need of more public cooperation and awareness, something that Dr. Khatib hopes will be a spin off from the new projects and campaigns currently being initiated by the organisation.

## Zarqa Municipality plans JD 500,000 sports complex

ZARQA (Petra) — Zarqa Municipality plans to establish a sports city on the lines of Al-Husseini Sports City in Amman with the purpose of promoting sports activities in Zarqa governorate. Zarqa District Governor Salem Al Qudah announced here Wednesday.

He said that the municipality has allocated JD 500,000 for the project, on which work will start early next year. The Youth Welfare Organisation, he said, has contributed JD 10,000 for the project which will be supervised by the Zarqa Development Corporation (ZDC).

The project will be set up west of the city of Zarqa on the road to Birein town on a 300-dunum plot area of land. Mr. Qudah said. He said that the sports city will have a soccer field and stadium that would accommodate up to 30,000 spectators, grounds for basketball,

volleyball and halls for table tennis, swimming-pools and other facilities.

The ZDC will undertake to plant trees in and around the sports city and will launch a campaign to raise funds for the project. The ZDC hopes to collect money from companies, factories and merchants in Zarqa, the district governor said.

Mr. Qudah, who is also chairman of the Zarqa Municipal Council, appealed to various citizens and organisations in Zarqa to offer donations and to contribute to this national sports project.

In an interview with the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, ZDC President Tayseer Ammani said that the corporation is determined to cooperate fully with the municipality in building the sports city and also in establishing public parks, children's gardens and a public library in Zarqa.



The two members of "Mime Music", Debbie O'Carroll (left) and Dollee Mallare (right) are currently in Amman to 'clown around' and to conduct a mime workshop at the Royal Cultural Centre.

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المجلس الثقافي البريطاني

On 27th October at 6 p.m.  
the Director of the Teaching Centre  
Mr. John McGovern  
will make a presentation on the use of  
the BBC English language course

"FOLLOW ME"

currently being shown on JTV  
at the British Council Centre, Jebel Amman

## IF YOU DO NOT NEED IT, WE DO

## Social Cooperation Campaign

In order to extend our services and to assist those less fortunate than ourselves, the Social Cooperation Campaign requests everyone to donate clothes, furniture, household appliances, canned and packaged foodstuffs, materials and any other item which you do not want. We want it, we need it and we will use it to support our "Social Cooperation Campaign" in Jordan.

We can ALL help the less fortunate. Individuals, families, companies and institutions can put a smile on the face of our children.

Please telephone 34001, 34009  
Best Wishes — The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS)

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## VIEW FROM AMERICA

By Franz Schurmann

## Two Mideast surprises are conceivable

NOW AS we move closer to the American election, we must also be wary of possible surprises.

There are only two surprises in the Middle East which are now conceivable. An Iranian offensive against Iraq and some Israeli move. And both are conceivable for similar reasons.

It is evident from the last hijackings that there is serious unrest in Iran. It is also evident that unrest has gone into the highest ranks of the leadership. And it is also fairly evident that unrest began to surface as soon as people got the impression that the war with Iraq might gradually fade away. War unifies peoples and nations. It has been true of both Iraq and Iran.

Yet because Iraq has gained such great international support and Iran has been effectively isolated on the world scene, the waning of war will have a much greater disruptive effect on Iran. So one could imagine that the Iranian leaders might wonder if another "Al-Fajr" offensive could restore national unity.

The same situation confronts Israel. Internal unity among Israelis has been coming apart. The cleavage between European and Eastern Jews has been growing worse. The economy is in terrible shape and getting worse. The leaders of the various factions are bitterly fighting amongst themselves. And an American rabbi has been calling for a Nazi-type

final solution of the "Arab question". Even though it is doubtful that the government can be very stable, Israel has been invisibly governed for many years. A powerful intelligence apparatus headed by a man whose name is never made public, functions as a stable apparatus. They have only one aim: the preservation of the State of Israel at any cost.

Preserving Israel at any cost could call for another stroke like the "Six Days War" in 1967 or the invasion of Lebanon in 1982. The first stroke worked brilliantly. The second was a disaster because a brutal and ambitious politician named Sharon wanted to turn all of Lebanon into a puppet state. But if it had been the

kind of "limited" offensive originally envisaged, it might have succeeded they way the 1967 adventure did.

An Iranian offensive that had possibilities of making serious advances against Iraq would provoke an American response. The U.S. is now too committed in the Gulf region to ignore the possibility that Basra could fall into Iranian hands.

Any military move before the election could be harmful to the Reagan camp. Mr. Mondale could indirectly imply that Mr. Reagan is favouring the Arabs, and Mr. Reagan would have difficulty justifying any American move in the Gulf. He would be in the same dil-

emma as when he sent troops to Beirut.

On the other hand, some new Israeli adventure would meet with absolutely no U.S. response. The State Department might do some cluck-clucking, but that would be all. Mr. Mondale who is just about an honorary citizen of Israel might even cheer the outrage. And Mr. Reagan, who reaffirmed the link to Israel in his renomination acceptance speech, would remain silent.

Despite all the terrible fault-lines in the Arab World, signs are emerging of a very slow and gradual coming together. The progress is slow in Lebanon and the terrible killing goes on, yet the signs are

definitely there. Maybe it is the realisation that Islam even for those who are not Muslim in the region forms a powerful and deeply rooted tree that covers many lands and peoples.

Israelis are in the same position as whites in South Africa. Both are a privileged minority ruling over oppressed populations. Neither situation will last.

The greatest strength Arab and Islamic lands can develop now is unity. Unity is the one condition their enemies felt was beyond their reach. Unity need not involve tight bonds. It can just be a long-term historical force that once again brings the shape of the ancient "umma" (nation) into being.

## The needy need help

THE GENERAL Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) is launching a campaign on Saturday to collect food, clothes, furniture, toys and whatever else people can dispense with to give to needy families of Jordan.

The campaign will continue as long as there is need for collecting for the less fortunate people in our society; and teams of volunteers will make it their business to beg on behalf of the poor, spread awareness about the real condition of needy people and try to raise as much financial and in-kind aid for them. What are you and your family doing to help?

In our society, there are old people whose children have abandoned them or left to work abroad and never returned, there are old and sick people housed in homes for the aged and provided with the bare minimum for existence sustaining on donations by a few of the rich and a number of charitable organisations. What is more and in accordance with the latest statistics available for GUVS, nearly 10 per cent of the Jordanian population live under the poverty line, which means they can barely have sufficient sustenance and shelter. What are the rich of our country doing about that?

In Jordan a number of relief organisations are trying to help the destitute and the needy and are thus trying to lend a hand to the local charitable and voluntary societies.

The World Food Programme (WFP) is organising relief programmes for farmers whose livelihoods have been endangered because of the last drought, and is providing wheat and milk for needy farmers and their families. What are the rich and the wealthy people of Jordan doing to help their countrymen? In Jordan, like other countries, the rich are becoming richer and the poor, poorer; but unlike other countries the Jordanian rich are not helping the Jordanian poor in any meaningful way.

There is real need for spreading awareness, mainly among the rich, about the real conditions of poor people, the Palestinian refugees in their camps and the handicapped who require constant care and help. Every citizen should be involved in a national campaign, not only for collecting food and clothes for the poor, but also to get the more fortunate amongst us to make real contribution towards building homes for the poor providing food and clothes and offering financial help for education and health services. Any humanitarian contribution can be channelled through the charitable societies around the country especially in the south where poverty is deeply felt.

To help the campaign succeed, the Ministry of Education can arrange for school children to be made aware of the poverty situation through their teachers so that parents and all families in the country can realise the real need for contributing to this humanitarian cause. Also television, radio and the press should be involved in the campaign because we want every single citizen and every member of the Jordanian family to feel the need to help the other.

## ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

## Al Ra'i: Hard work needed

A JOINT communique issued at the end of Prince Hassan's visit to Egypt underlined the need for the two countries: Jordan and Egypt to exchange expertise and to benefit from each other's experience in all fields. This is a very important step if the two countries are to launch economic and technical integration which are at the basis of any form of unity among nations. The communique provided for bilateral cooperation in different fields, specifically in agriculture, mining, industry and technology. But it is to be admitted that all dreams cannot be fulfilled overnight and hard work on both sides is required if they want real cooperation to materialise.

The exchange of expertise and experience should serve as an example for other Arab states wishing to form some kind of integration or unity with one another. The communique touched on the political side emphasising the two countries' determination to double efforts for reaching a just solution for the Palestine issue supported the Iraqi people in their defence of Arab territory and repelling aggression, and voiced support for the legitimate Lebanese government in its drive to establish security and peace in the country.

The communique reflected awareness of the leaderships in the two countries of the needs for joint cooperation, and of the developments the Arab World is witnessing at present.

## Al Dustour: Towards common objectives

THE JOINT communique issued in Amman and Cairo at the end of Prince Hassan's visit to Egypt is characterised by certain features that make it an example to be copied by other Arab states genuinely wishing to launch steps towards cooperation and progress.

The communique clearly manifested the two countries' keenness on embarking on economic, trade, cultural and technological cooperation, avoided rhetoric which has marked all other Arab statements, and concentrated instead on arriving at specific aims and basic issues of concern to the peoples of both countries.

The communique also projected Egyptian-Jordanian full recognition of pressing national issues particularly the situation in the occupied Arab territories, the Lebanese crisis and the Iran-Iraq war, and pointed out their concern for further developing inter-Arab and national action to find solutions for these problems. The joint communique reflects determination on both sides to achieve Arab solidarity and to work towards common objectives.

## Sawt Al Shaab: Majority wants PNC meeting

WE REALLY wonder if the disputes among Palestinian groups have ended and whether the Palestinian National Council meeting will be held soon.

PLO chairman Yasser Arafat has been reported as saying that differences among Palestinian groups have come to an end, but the real situation is otherwise. We still hear Syria-supported groups announcing their determination to adhere to their positions and pursue their objectives.

The differences among Palestinian groups are really a reflection of the disputes among Arab governments, and the differences of interests among the groups is but an outcome of those that exist among Arab states.

No doubt Arafat has the majority of Palestinians behind him, and they all want the PNC meeting to be held as soon as possible to find solutions to many problems impeding the struggle for liberation. But we wonder how this can come about if certain Arab capitals continue to spike the wheels, and obstruct attempts for unity and consensus.

Palestinian action should never be allowed to be subjugated to hegemony, nor should it be made to follow policies dictated by Arab capitals. If this happens then the PLO would lose its legitimacy as the representative of the Palestinian people.

## Israel, Syria have made up for losses in Lebanon war

By Hyam Corney

LONDON—Israel and Syria have largely replaced losses in military equipment sustained in the war in Lebanon two years ago and in some cases "have gone beyond replacement", according to the International Institute for Strategic Studies.

Statistics included in the institute's annual publication, "The Military Balance," published here today, show that while Israel's armed forces have declined in number in the past five years from 165,000 to 141,000, those of Egypt, Syria and Saudi Arabia have all gone up. In 1979, Egypt's Armed Forces totalled 395,000. Today they stand at 406,000. Saudi Arabia's have gone up in the

same period from 44,500 to 51,500 while those of Syria have shot up from 227,500 to 362,500.

The largest armed forces in the Middle East are those of Iraq, which now number 642,500 — almost treble what they were five years ago. Iran has 550,000.

The breakdown of expenditure shows that Israel bears a far heavier military burden in financial terms than any of its Arab neighbours. What Israel spent in 1982 (the latest year for which these figures are available) represented 44.6 per cent of total government spending (compared with 33 per cent three years earlier) and 35.7 per cent of its gross national product. Syria's spending was only 29.1 per cent of government spending (a reduction of

some six per cent compared with 1979) and was only 13.4 per cent of its GNP. The Saudi figure, too, was under 30 per cent of total government spending (a reduction of around three per cent) and represented under 18 per cent of its GNP.

In 1982, Israel spent \$6,879b. on defence, Syria \$2,474b., Egypt \$2,495b., Iraq \$8,127b. and Saudi Arabia \$2,062b.

In 1982, Middle East countries among them spent \$72b. on the military sector, of which 39 per cent was spent by states comprising the Gulf Co-operation Council, 18 per cent by Egypt, Israel, Lebanon and Syria, and 38 per cent by Iran and Iraq.

The institute comments that

"there is no indication that defence expenditures have decreased in 1984. The continuing Arabian Gulf war, the cost of which can only be estimated, and the fear of its escalation have forced surrounding states to continue to buy arms in substantial quantities, despite reduced revenues and large current-account deficits.

The institute is of the view that the balance of forces between Iran and Iraq "is now such that neither appears likely to be able to gain a decisive military advantage in the war, although political and economic factors could still have a major impact on whether to continue the war or to negotiate a ceasefire."

What the institute terms "The

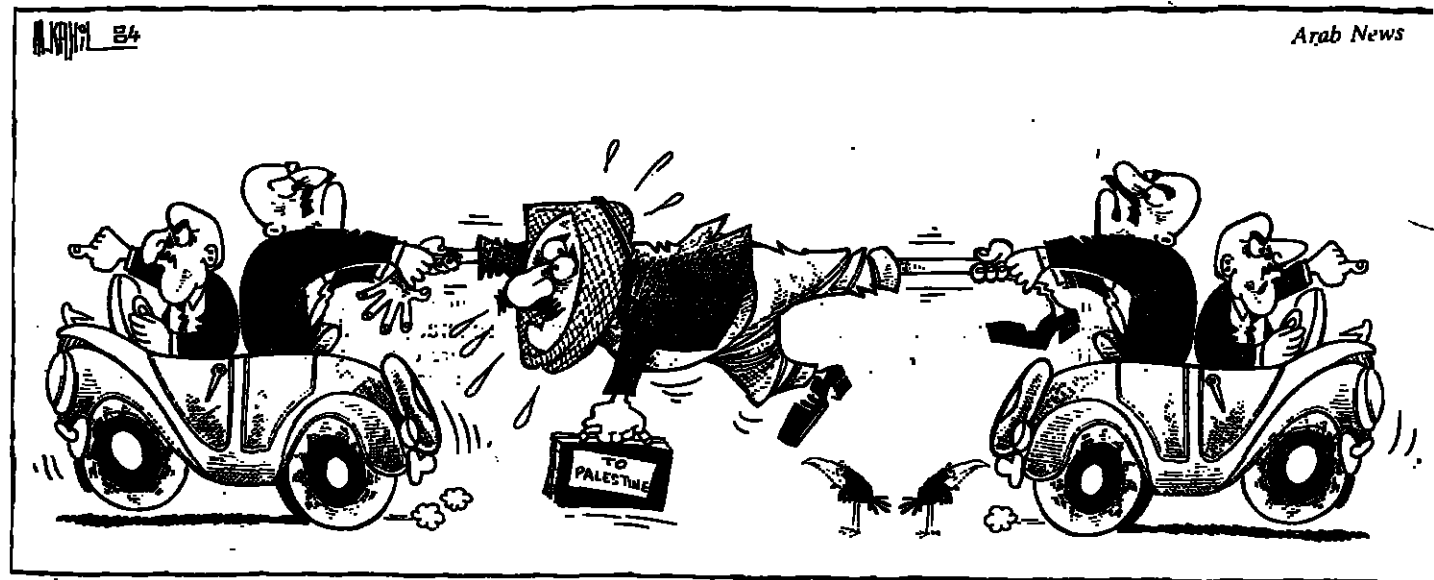
Palestinian Conflict" consumed "at least \$13b." last year. "Israel's hyper-inflation makes it impossible to calculate real defence costs, nor is it possible to estimate the real value of Soviet military aid to Syria."

American military aid to Egypt, Israel, Jordan and Lebanon last year totalled over \$3.2b.

The spending on arms by Middle East countries has provided what the institute calls "a major impetus" to Latin American armaments industries, despite the fact that there is less money available. The Latin Americans, experts believe, "are tending also to challenge the position of the established arms suppliers in some other Third World regions."

Looking at the arms situation generally, "The Military Balance" notes that the world's armed forces are still being modernised, but more slowly in some cases than in earlier years. "Economic restraints are beginning to bite on defence programmes."

There has been no major expansion this year in super-power nuclear weapons programmes, despite the absence of effective arms control agreements. "The general trend is in the direction of increasing accuracy, greater mobility, dispersal, concealment, and smaller size. It is a trend which will make it very difficult to negotiate verifiable constraints in future years," the institute warns — Jerusalem Post.



## Opponents want Arafat out before PNC meets

By Dima Matar

Reuter

DAMASCUS — Palestinian commandos opposed to Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat are playing a new, Syrian-backed card in their drive to topple the PLO chief.

They insist Mr. Arafat be removed as leader before they consent to attend a long-stalled session of the Palestine National Council (PNC), the equivalent of a Palestinian parliament-in-exile.

Backed by Syria, the rebels argue that a council meeting now would only solidify a split between two Palestinian camps — themselves and their supporters on the one side and Mr. Arafat and his followers on the other.

But independent Palestinian sources say the dissidents' main concern is that if the council met, Mr. Arafat would easily win at least 50 per cent support if the issue of his removal were tabled.

The dissidents waged all-out war against Mr. Arafat and his men in Lebanon last year and have since managed to obstruct the work of the council, the Pal-

estiniens' highest decision-making body. It last met in February 1983 and was supposed to meet in February this year.

Mr. Arafat, who has been touring Arab capitals to seek the support of enough council members to hold a session, was quoted as saying it would meet in Jordan or Iraq next month.

The sources, however, said they believed Mr. Arafat had not gathered enough members to call a meeting. A quorum of at least two-thirds of the council's 379 members — five of the original 384 have died — is needed to hold a session.

The sources said Mr. Arafat's recent statements indicated he was under pressure to act quickly for fear the PLO might be bypassed in any settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict. Washington refuses to deal with the PLO unless it recognises Israel's right to exist.

Palestinian factions, grouped in the "Democratic Alliance," grouping the radical Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP), the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine

(DFLP), the Palestine Liberation Front and the Palestinian Communist Party, announced an agreement in Aden in June aimed at ending the dispute within the PLO.

But the agreement was rejected by Syrian-backed anti-Arafat rebels who accused the alliance of trying to keep Mr. Arafat head of the PLO.

The independent Palestinian sources said the "Democratic Alliance" could tip the scales in favour of Mr. Arafat if its representatives agreed to attend a council meeting. But they added such a move was unlikely at present amid signs of disagreement within the alliance.

While the Marxist DFLP maintains that the Palestinian parliament is the only legal body to determine Mr. Arafat's fate, PFLP officials have been calling for his removal before a council meeting, the sources said.

Rebel spokesman Mahmoud Labbadi, once a close Arafat aide, acknowledges that the rebels will be isolated if all other Palestinian factions agree to attend a council session.

"We are the weak part of the equation. But our strength lies in the fact that we are Palestinians," he told Reuters in his headquarters, Mr. Arafat's former apartment in the heart of the Syrian capital.

"We would rather be isolated than fall into the American trap... we all know that the ball is now in America's court," Mr. Labbadi stated.

The independent sources said Syria's support was crucial for the rebels in their drive to oust Mr. Arafat.

Damascus is believed to have encouraged Algeria not to host the council session if differences persisted within the Palestinian movement, the sources said.

Syria's relations with Mr. Arafat have been at a low ebb since his expulsion from Damascus last year and Syria's support for the rebels within his mainstream Fateh faction.

Efforts to reconcile Syrian President Hafez Al-Assad and the PLO leader have so far failed and Western and Arab diplomats say they see no prospect of a reconciliation in the near future.

## Inquiry into British atomic tests shocks Australians

By Reg Gratton

Reuter

SYDNEY — A probe into safety conditions at British atomic tests in Australia in the 1950s has shocked Australians and drawn an indignant retort from the British.

Witnesses and documents before a royal commission say people were exposed to dangerous radiation because Britain took inadequate precautions at the secret tests, carried out in the south Australian outback and the Monte Bello Islands off western Australia.

Ex-servicemen involved in the tests have testified that Aborigines have died and troops have suffered radiation-related illnesses.

The commission opened public hearings last month following widespread controversy in Australia over the effects of radioactive fallout.

This week Britain's new high commissioner to Australia expressed his concern over the hearings, saying his government's name had been dragged across the floor.

The high commissioner, Sir John Leahy, told reporters: "I would hate it to be thought that our silence in some way connotes a tacit acquiescence to some of the things being said about us."

Whether Britain will make a formal presentation to the inquiry depends on how the commission goes about its business in the future, he added.

Sir John's comments brought a sharp response from the commission president, Justice James McClelland, who said the inquiry could not be expected to ban publication of allegations unpleasant to British ears.

"I suppose the British high commissioner will be asking next

that our history books omit all reference to the nasty way Henry VIII treated his wives," Mr. McClelland said in a statement.

He said the three-member commission, which has been touring state capitals, was well able to distinguish between an allegation and a fact.

The Australian public has been swamped with media coverage of the hearings, including first-hand reports from soldiers.

In Sydney, a former lance corporal told the commission that he and other servicemen were threatened with execution or 30 years' jail if they talked about an Aboriginal family who strayed into a contaminated area.

The Sydney sitting also saw two British films showing servicemen working in contaminated areas without protective clothing.

In Brisbane, a former armoured soldier took two unused atomic bombs out into the desert then burnt and buried them.

The secretary of an association of the ex-servicemen who worked at the test sites told the Brisbane hearing he saw five dead Aborigines in the Maralinga testing area in south Australia.

The commission is due to pull together its voluminous evidence and hand down its findings by June 30 next year.

It is also expected to visit Britain to gather evidence following assurances from the British government in May that all available information on the tests would be passed on to Australia.

Britain says every precaution was taken and adds that it has no evidence that anyone suffered a dangerous overdose of radiation.

Foreign Minister Bill Hayden charged during a visit to London in May that the tests were carried out carelessly and incompetently.

## North, South Korean economic talk agreement raises speculation

By M.H. Ahn

Associated Press

SEOUL — In a sudden about-face, North Korea has agreed to hold economic talks with South Korea aimed at promoting trade and other exchanges. What prompted the decision has set off a rash of speculation.

South Korea made its proposal Oct. 12, and North Korea accepted four days later, suggesting that the first meeting be held in the truce village of Panmunjom on Nov. 15. If the talks come about as scheduled, they would be the first known government-level contacts between the South and North since August 1980.

They also would be the first talks between the two sides devoted exclusively to economic matters since the Korean peninsula was divided at the end of World

War II in 1945.

All previous efforts over the years by the two Koreas to move towards rapprochement and reconciliation failed after rounds of talks in the political, Red Cross and sports areas. Among the proposals was a joint Olympic team.

Less than two months ago, North Korea had customarily rejected as another propaganda trick a similar South proposal from President Chun Doo-Hwan on economic matters.

South Korean Unification Minister Sohn Jae-Shik testified before the National Assembly Friday that Pyong Yang's acceptance this time might be more than a simple propaganda gesture and that the north might be after some practical gains in view of its economic plight.

In the first comment by a ranking Seoul official since the North

Korean agreement to meet, Sohn said: "I would not completely rule out the possibility that Seoul and Pyong Yang could initiate economic cooperation."

But he cautioned against expecting any immediate substantial results.

Some Seoul officials reasoned that the North could not possibly refuse the economic talks when the outside world was watching with interest inter-Korean development. South Korea recently accepted flood relief supplies from the North, the first aid to cross the border since the partition of the land.

In a surprise departure from the past, Seoul said it was taking the unprecedented reconciliatory action in hope that it would lead to dialogue aimed at eventual reunification, even though it didn't need the aid from the North.

Both sides repeatedly talked about brotherly love during the delivery, carried out in a rare friendly atmosphere devoid of the usual political propaganda exchange.

In accepting the economic talks, North Korean Vice Premier Kim Hwan said in a letter to his South Korean counterpart, Shin Byung-Hyon, that Pyongyang was ready to meet Seoul on economic, sports and other cooperation. If such moves were substantially conducive to reunification.

Minister Sohn, echoing a general theory put forth by the domestic press here, said the North was believed to have agreed to meet to try to improve its tarnished international image after a terrorist bomb attack on South Korean officials in Rangoon last October, blamed on the North. Elaborating on the possible

economic motive, Mr. Sohn pointed out the North has recently enacted a joint venture law designed to attract capital and technology from Western countries, particularly Japan.

Pyongyang is allegedly concerned about its economy trailing far behind that of the South, which is a recognised model for developing economies.

In 1983, the South recorded \$75.3 billion in Gross National Product against the North's reported \$14.5 billion and the South's exports were \$24.4 billion, almost 18 times that of the North, according to data released by Seoul officials.

The officials also claim that the North has defaulted on its external debts, which were listed at \$3.5 billion, including \$2.3 billion from the West.

Mr. Sohn also noted Seoul is

hoping that the two Koreas will first start trade and then proceed to joint ventures, whereas Pyongyang is eyeing joint ventures from the start in such areas as the development of natural resources and fishery.

Officials and businessmen in Seoul have said the North could supply primary products such as iron ore and coal which the South needs to import, in exchange for South Korean-made automobiles, daily necessities and other manufactured goods.

However, some Seoul officials are pessimistic about the North taking South Korean manufactured goods, particularly those of technology-intensive products which would deny the North's propaganda to its people that the South's economy is in terrible shape.



## THE LITERARY CORNER

## M. Al Razzaz scans a world of hallucinations

DISSOCIATING MU'NES Al-Razzaz, the well-known Jordanian novelist, short-story writer and translator from the halo that had for many years surrounded his father, the late Muneef Al-Razzaz, the great Arab thinker and philosopher, is quite a difficult task. Being the son of the pan-Arab theorist must have enriched the author's knowledge and experience. Mu'nes Al-Razzaz must have had his first draught from his father's spring which had always been ideologically colourful and rich.

Mu'nes Al-Razzaz was born in Amman in 1951; he completed his elementary, preparatory, and secondary studies at Al-Mutran Secondary School in the capital. He studied at the universities of Beirut, Lebanon, Iraq and the United States of America. He wrote in many prominent Arab papers and magazines. His works include: "A Small Tongue in the Face of the Big World" — a collection of impressions; "The Sea is Behind You"; "The Rebellious — short stories"; and translations including: "The Dictionary of the Theatre"; "The Uprising of the Gallows"; and "Masterpieces from the World Literature — short stories".

Overpowered by a strong drive towards independence — perhaps a subconscious urge to live outside his father's halo, notwithstanding the great love he has for him, Mu'nes Al-Razzaz wanted to delve into the world of literature with an experimental novel entitled "Alive in the Dead Sea", in which he successfully portrays the confounded state of affairs of the Arab World, with par-

ticular emphasis on some of the so-called progressive states and organisations. The sea of chaos and confusion — "the Dead Sea emerging from the ocean and going down into the Gulf" — left an extensive impact on the author and thus compelled him to write a novel in which absurdity, existentialism, and surrealism do crazily intersect and mate. "Alive in the Dead Sea" is a novel of hallucinations overwhelmed by overtones of loss and fragmentation. In the author's language (as reported by Mithqal Tuheimer Al-Za'al) "is some clattered papers written by my friend Inad Al-Shahid (the witness) in which he portrays various states of transformation, contradiction, and some psychological, spiritual and material inversions." He also adds:

"The arrangement of the numbers on the pages may not be logical; I found the papers clattered up and down, right and left to an extent that I could not distinguish between the papers of the novel and those of the autobiography, not to mention those papers of his diary on which he wrote the sayings of his friends."

The leading character — who sometimes isn't leading at all — is a young man who has preferred to have been portrayed as a normal, familiar person, but the author "insisted on making me a genuine product of this glorious time and this happy homeland. Not only that, but he also made me write an open novel exactly like the time and place cocktails which he portrayed."

The novel, as illustrated previously, reflects the tragic state

of frustration, depression, weariness and despair, which has developed into a way of life led by the Arab citizen. This hopeless and aimless life pushes the miserable Arab intellectual into the world of drugs — an obvious attempt to escape painful reality. When this happens, Inad Al-Shahid becomes fragmented, confused, and delirious, and the novel takes a crazy non-novel form in which the first person mingles with the third, the Arab interrogator takes the face of an Israeli intelligence officer, the jailer becomes the prisoner and the prisoner takes the role of the persecutor:

"My life is hard. I began to explain and feel sorry for myself. The cells and ditches were thirsty for hard currency. My life is hard. And then I am an Arab, a permanent object for raids even if I were in Rub Al Khali (the 'empty quarter' desert in Saudi Arabia) pasturing camels and discharging urine on my heels. I put my hand in the pocket of the past: My years expropriated by cells and dungeons. And in the future... I put my hands and I find the wasteland. The cell is your resthouse between two ditches. My life delivers into a refrigerator. This that was not and then was is the jungles of questions and a wilderness of answers."

Times penetrate one another. I delete the evening but the day collides with the night and fades away. I collapse in rivers collapsing in the day. I do not rush. It's Mithqal pulling me from the arm. I sleep on the flying carpet and laugh. I said while my mouth was full of lau-

ghter: "Are you Mithqal, or do I think you are?" He pulled me and I asked him, "Are you pulling me, or do I think you are?"

"I told him that the major had thrown me into the prison, and I am his twin. The captain imprisoned me and showed me nothing but the stars of the night (alluding to the 'stars of the moon')."

What more than delirium overwhelmed by cells and dungeons do you make out of this? However, when Inad Al-Shahid is taking hold of himself, the novel takes the normal path expected of a traditional story-telling work. The leading character is conspicuously portrayed and he takes care of narration. When the hero is sober, his narration is coherent, consistent and meaningful. In the following episode, Al-Razzaz, through his scarcely-sober hero, proves that even the guards appointed to give him the necessary protection harass him, thus adding a new dimension of agony to the daily persecution series:

"The escort was sitting beside the driver. I said to the driver, slow down, we are not in a hurry."

"Without moving, the first escort said, 'Sir! Speed is necessary for security purposes'."

"Mariam twisted her lips and wore a long face. I appraisedly whispered in her ears. 'He knows his duty; he exposes his life to danger for my sake, and anyway, he speaks politely and in a disciplined tone.'"

## Alive in the Dead Sea

"When we came close to the restaurant, I asked the driver to turn on the radio. The female secretary smiled gently and politely and said, 'The security instructions do not permit them to turn on the radio while the car is running, for security purposes of course, especially in cases of utmost emergency.'"

The first escort seconded her idea in his usual politeness, the radio disturbs our capability of hearing on the one hand, and distracts our surveillance on the other. Suppose one of the enemies shot at..."

Suppressing my rage, I said, "Alright, alright, I understand."

Al-Razzaz's novel cannot be taken as one complete novel following one identified plot, and logically moving from one scene or event to another. Rather, it is made of dispersed bits and pieces lacking coherence and consistency. The author harnesses these impressionistic, unrelated, and terrifying paintings to pass his very severe and cruel criticism of his own world — the Arab World. In one of these scenes, an Arab intellectual sits in a fancy Lebanese cafe, consuming all kinds of delicious foods and beverages, and yet condemning and cursing the incompetence of the fighters (a typical saloon general).

"Arabs are scab," he says; "they only 'down' their own heads."

Another cruel "piece", maybe the most cruel, is what this woman is saying: "I haven't been raped in Ascalon, but in an Arab pri-

son."

Al-Razzaz persists on drawing gloomy pictures of his people, reflecting their limitations, shortcomings, apathy, selfishness, incompetence... etc., without a single word on their positive traits, which ranks him with the pessimistic writers — a point taken against him, of course. Sami Al-Jundi's, "My Friend Elias" could have influenced the author in this respect, especially that they both join or used to join the same political ranks.

The experimental, non-conventional, quasi-novel which is void of any storytelling is yet another point counted against the author. This form of writing is, in the eyes of some classical critics, attributed to incompetence on the part of the author. They contend that anybody can write hallucinations, but not everybody writes a novel. I, among many others, would have accepted this fragmented piece of literature better had Mu'nes Al-Razzaz showed us his ability in writing a typical novel.

The lowly, absurd, and unprecedented state of the Arab World could give the author some justification for resorting to such form of literature, but not to the extent of divorcing himself from the basic literary norms and rules. Although the writer succeeded in shocking and confusing the reader, he did not tell him anything that he does not already know. He succeeded in creating, or I should say, recreating an atmosphere of chaos, confusion, and despair.

— Ahmad Jaber

## Randa Habib's Corner

## Two-way letters

THE OTHER day I was reading the story of this postman who was tired from distributing the mail and who found the following solution: In the evenings he read all the letters and then burnt them in his fireplace. The police were alerted by the neighbours, who were surprised to see the smoke in summer and they caught the postman with his hand in... the bag (of letters).

Fortunately this story did not happen in Jordan, our post office and postmen are more serious. I have never heard of such stories here. Of course it may happen that a letter sent to P.O. Box 815330 goes to P.O.B. 815003. Sometimes the mistake is more strange: Instead of going to P.O. Box 840, a letter is put in P.O.B. 120 etc...

But one should count on the fact that there are well-intentioned people who will send back the letters. A reader was telling me that every week she is sending six copies of the Jordan Times abroad. At the post office they charge here for her "parcel", sometimes 340 fils and at others JD 1.400. This depends on the post office location, on the time of the day, believe it or not, on the mood of the employee.

The lady's six Jordan Times are sometimes considered as a letter, other times as a parcel or package. Why complain? This has the advantage of adding a certain element of spice to what can be a monotonous visit to the post office — if you want to look at it that way!

## 'New Wave' pioneer departs at 52

Reuter

PARIS — French film director Francois Truffaut, who died of cancer Sunday aged 52, charmed millions of fans with what he called "a cinema of feelings... of the relations that people have with each other."

A founder of French "New Wave" in the 1960s, Truffaut won wide acclaim with sensitive and humorous portrayals of the difficulties of loving, and the innocence and loneliness of adolescence.

"I always make films about love — never war and violence," he once said. "I don't understand the argument that showing violence makes people turn against it."

He said his main concern was to respect the public's desire for enjoyment, without presenting a falsified, misleading picture of life. "In a film the director gives the audience a promise of pleasure," he told an interviewer.

"One keeps one's promise by providing an exultant ending... in the last 10 minutes of each of my films there is a rising, mounting curve upwards."

His work, which won dozens of international awards, was strongly influenced by the late Alfred Hitchcock.

The two became close friends and Truffaut wrote a book about Hitchcock, based on taped conversations.

The son of a Paris architect, Truffaut was born on Feb. 6, 1932. He was so physically weak as a child that his parents sent him to live with his grandmother in the country until he was eight years old.

Separation from his parents had a profound effect on him and was reflected in his many films about a child's loneliness.

Back in Paris, the young Truffaut sought refuge from his real-life problems in the cinema and often played truant to watch films. He watched many of them over and over again to study the technique of the directors. Years later, he estimated he had seen more than 3,000 films.

At 14 he left school and took odd jobs such as messenger boy, shop assistant, clerk and factory welder.

His chief aim was to raise sufficient funds for a cinema club. A less respectable way of getting cash — stealing brass door knobs — led to a brief spell in a reform school.

At 19 he was conscripted into the French Army at the time France was fighting in Indochina. He contested his conscription and was detained as a conscientious objector until his release from the army as "an unstable personality" in 1953.

Truffaut entered the film industry through a side-door as a critic, and for eight years he attacked established film institutions such as the Cannes Festival and noted producers such as Ignace Morgenstern.

His criticisms were so savage that he was barred from the Cannes Festival in 1958. Ironically, he had fallen in love the year before with Morgenstern's daughter, Madeleine, and they were married in October 1957.

The couple had two daughters, Laura and Eva, before being divorced.

Truffaut had always set his sights on directing. His first feature, "The 400 Blows", catapulted him to fame in 1959 with its autobiographical portrayal of a juvenile delinquent.

The low-budget film, financed in part by his wealthy father-in-law, used unknown actors and only a dozen technicians. But it won 12 international awards and Truffaut himself gained the prize as the best director at the Cannes Festival, which had banned him the year before.

He continued his autobiographical series with "Stolen Kisses" and "Bed and Board", and in 1973 won the American Film Academy's prestigious best foreign film Oscar for "Day for Night", a fictionalised look at the movie industry.

Truffaut worked on occasion with established stars such as Charles Aznavour, Jeanne Moreau and Julie Christie, but he never disguised his preference for less well-known actors.

"The audience already has an image of those stars, while the way I use them is against their image. My people are weak, vulnerable, fragile," he said.

## Architect Soleri seeks alternative to urban conjection

By Meg Abu Hamdan  
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Giving lectures to packed halls of architects and architectural students at both the Jordan and Yarmouk Universities and at the American Centre last week was the famous American architect Paolo Soleri.

Soleri stopped off in Amman at the invitation of the American Centre here on his way from Damascus back to Arizona where he is in the process of building his own solution to the urban problems, that exist now and will increasingly do so in the future unless more people like Soleri propose serious alternatives to the way our cities are being built. Soleri calls his prototype energy-efficient city Arcosanti and it is hailed by many as "Probably the most important experiment undertaken in our lifetime" (Newsweek).

A native of northern Italy, Soleri grew up experiencing life both in the heart of a big industrial city, Torino, and high up in the mountains where he was taken by his mountaineering father. Both had their attractions and Soleri realised that the combination was important. After the Second World War, Soleri like many other European architects, found his way to the United States and it was there, where the contrasts between the urban and rural environments were so powerful, that he became "convinced that eve-

ryone should have easy access to both city and country."

After being apprenticed to Frank Lloyd Wright, from whom he learnt "coherence and an ability to transform the landscape into something exciting", Soleri broke away and set up his own workshop and school in Scottsdale, Arizona, not far from Wright's Taliesin West.

At Scottsdale, Soleri founded the Cosanti Foundation which took the form of a small cluster of shell-like concrete structures which functioned as living quarters and drafting rooms for himself and his students. Supporting himself and his operations almost entirely on the proceeds of a workshop that produced Soleri designed ceramics and metal bells, he amassed enough theoretical material to hold a major exhibition.

## Arcosanti

It was after this exhibition that attracted world-wide attention that Soleri was able to purchase some 860 acres 70 miles north of Scottsdale on which he could put his ideas into practice and make them literally concrete. Financed by whatever funds Soleri can raise by lecturing, from the sale of his wind bells and publications and from the 50,000 people who come annually to see Arcosanti, the city is being built out of earth-formed concrete structures by about 100 apprentices — mostly young peo-

ple straight out of college who are looking for significant alternatives to routine ideas in both architecture and social organisation — who work under Soleri's direction.

In the 12 years since the scheme's initiation only three percent of the entire project has been constructed but Soleri hopes that another 10 years will see more than 10 per cent built and he hopes by then there will be at least 500 people actually living in Arcosanti making the project a vital ongoing process.

Arcosanti embodies many concepts within its design which are quite simple and fairly universal but which on a deeper level become very complex as a look at Soleri's book "Arcosanti: An Urban Laboratory" which explores 63 topics on ecology city planning,

social life, evolution and other subjects both in general and as they relate to Arcosanti, reveals. In very simple terms, however, the scheme is based on the concept of architecture and ecology working as one integral process.

It relies on certain effects, namely the greenhouse, the chimney, the apse and the urban effects; which are natural methods of conserving resources such as land (the scheme is built on marginal land, not on the best agricultural land) water, time, energy and ecological sanity and which also cut down on pollution, segregation waste, isolation, bureaucracy and alienation.

## Jordan

One of the most frequently asked questions his lectures prompted here in Jordan was how did he think his ideas would apply to

this country. In an interview with the Jordan Times Soleri explained that "Jordan like many other countries, large and small, is faced with the problem of urban migration. Everybody wants to live in Amman and this creates a condition that is unacceptable. My answer to this problem is to make villages and to generate small communities like we are doing at Arcosanti. Communities which are lively, Arcosanti offers a series of performances by visiting artists, as well as biennial conferences and festivals, and which offer what the city has to offer but without the harshness, the ugliness."

Soleri also said that the environmental similarities between Arizona and Jordan also mean that many of the energy and water conservation and increased food production techniques used in

Arcosanti could be applied successfully and usefully to this part of the world.

During his short stay in Jordan, Soleri managed to travel around the country quite extensively, taking in Petra as well as the refugee camps. "I was pleasantly surprised by Amman" he said "It is a city in which somebody has done the right things, there is a certain orderliness, and in contrast to many cities in the region there seems to be more control in the spin off of the city. The disarray and the decay does not seem so apparent here. I was also pleased by the quality of the recent architecture which is unified by the use of stone. I don't know how widespread the well-being of the people is here, but I feel there is a good process of social uplifting going on", he concluded.

## Arcosanti



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## Globe trotters take breather in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Trans-Global Runners will be arriving in Jordan from Der'a, Syria, at 12 noon Saturday Nov. 22nd. They will be running across the north of Jordan to Saudi Arabia.

The team will travel to Amman to collect supplies and equipment for the crossing of Saudi Arabia and the two runners will hold a press conference in Amman.

The runners, Henry Weston, 23, and Robin Cross, 24, will be covering 50 kilometres a day. The pair have already completed 4,550 kilometres in their attempt to become the first people to run around the world. In eight weeks,

following their April 1st departure from London's tower bridge, they have run through France, West Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Italy, Yugoslavia and Bulgaria to Istanbul. Supported through Europe by a bicycle carrying the necessary supplies, they are now using a Volkswagen minibus which has followed them since Istanbul. Freighting of equipment and customs formalities caused a long delay in

Turkey.

The next stage of the Trans-Global Marathon takes the team through Saudi Arabia along the Tapline to Bahrain. Following a visit to the United Arab Emirates and Oman, the expedition will continue from Karachi, Pakistan, and follow a route through India, Bangladesh, Burma, Thailand and Malaysia to Singapore. The last stage takes the runners through Australia and across the United States. The total distance is 25,600 kilometres. The team hope to complete the marathon in just over 12 months.

Over 100 major companies have sponsored the team in the supply of equipment. The pair and their support team expect to get through 1,000 kilograms of spaghetti, 300 pairs of socks, 150 jars of foot powder, 80 pairs of shoes and 500 blister pads. The expedition has been sponsored by a company in each country they visit who have acted as hosts. All excess money raised will be donated to the World Wildlife Fund. The expedition team look forward to visiting Jordan and meeting the Jordanian people, a spokesman for the team said in a letter to the Jordan Times this week.

## IAAF to approve Grand Prix

BRUSSELS (R) — Plans to set up a Grand Prix athletics circuit with two million dollars total prize money are expected to be finalised Thursday at a meeting of the International Amateur Athletic Federation's (IAAF) here.

General Secretary John Holt told Reuters IAAF delegates were due to approve a list of 16 meetings to be selected from the world calendar in an attempt to bring more order to the sport on an international level.

At present, there is no championship circuit as such, with athletes choosing whether to take part in individual meetings on their own merits, often pulling out at the last moment.

Calling the current set-up 'higgledy-piggledy', Holt said "it would make more sense to the athletes if the events could be seen to have a goal and a unifying force."

According to plans to be submitted Thursday, the circuit would begin with two meetings in the United States and end with a grand finale in September in Rome. Three or four of the other meetings would be in Eastern Europe, including Moscow, with the rest in Western Europe, Holt said.

Belgian Athletic Federation officials said the idea behind the Grand Prix, agreed in principle at a meeting in Rome last September, was to ensure leading athletes concentrated on a series of key events rather than picking and choosing from the many meetings on the international calendar.

The way the plan worked would ensure that, having taken part in one event, athletes would participate in the remaining ones also, they said.

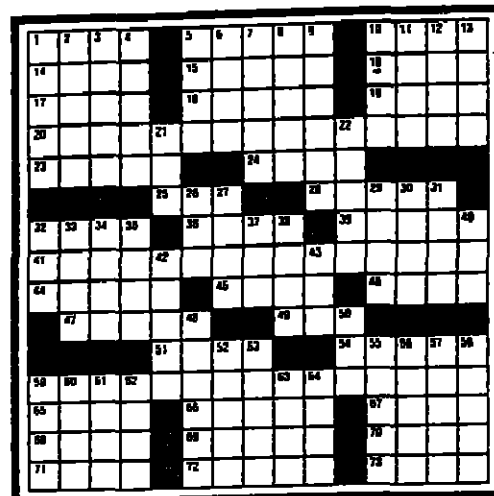
Under the plan, athletes would be awarded points for their performance in each individual event and there would be prizes at the end of the season, from \$10,000 for the winner downwards. The overall Grand Prix winner would receive a further \$16,000.

The money would go to the athlete's own federation rather than to him or her directly so as not to contravene rules on payments.

Holt said the IAAF plans would extend to an international level a system that had worked well in the United States for three years. The two million dollars total prize money would come from a U.S. oil company, he said.

## THE Daily Crossword By Judson G. Trent

ACROSS  
1 Treat with scorn  
5 "It's — unusual day"  
10 Queen's rank: abbr.  
14 Stockings  
15 Gr. coins  
16 Agalloch  
17 Tucson's state: abbr.  
18 Scoff  
19 Ascertained  
20 Advice to a crook?  
23 Good golf score  
24 Nick's dog  
25 Spinner  
26 Overcharge  
27 Puzzled  
28 Pro — Jeweled headpiece  
41 Advice to keep going  
44 — said  
45 Eng. author of old  
46 Egyptian killers  
47 Talent or cub  
48 Evergreen  
51 "Give us — day —"  
54 Embury  
59 Grow  
60 prosperous!  
65 Spindle  
66 Marriage —  
67 Chi-chi  
68 Fad  
69 Battery part  
70 Angler's gear  
71 Arab land  
72 — over helps in a pinch  
73 Being: Lat.



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6 Cafe card

7 Percutic forte

8 Rumba and waltz

9 Medium's cards

10 Tun

11 Sheltered

12 Band

13 Sawbucks

21 Still

22 Sagueros

26 Sp. gold

27 Muri or Anka

29 Verdi heroine

30 Straggles

31 Kind of school

32 F. Lee Bailey's org.

33 Totals

34 Ambler or Blore

35 Part of A.D.

36 Test

38 In a fit way

40 Dunderhead

42 Shaver

43 Bread

48 "Casey at —"

50 Strife

52 Modern Persian

53 Church body

56 Springe

58 "— to you!"

57 Kefauver

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:  
JALIS AMANA OMIA  
EVIL RADIO RAYE  
LIRA CHICK DYES  
MARCIADIE CAPES  
SNAKE DISPOIC  
SERI TUITION  
ARIA DOBS BREWED  
HAPP VISUAL DEMI  
ERIORR EITS BOM  
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EELLY AINDIES DALLS

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## FRIDAY'S RACES AT THE ROYAL RACING CLUB-TUNEIB

A prize and a cup were presented by the The Jordanian-French Insurance Company in Amman. The company's prize JD 2,000 will be presented to the winner of the fifth round in this week's race.

### FIRST RACE - 2:30 p.m.

For beginners

Distance 1400 metres

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Abdullah A. El Raheem	N. Elsheher	Owner	Sulman	54
2- Mirey Talab	Elabjar	Owner	Yousef	54
3- Ismael Abdullah	Bayer	Owner	Mostafa	54
4- Nalef Z. Elmatar	Allen	Owner	Mostafa	54
5- Aly Mohammad	Safia's	Owner	Salim	52.5
6- Aly Sialat	M. Molen	Owner	Salim	52.5
7- Mohammad A. Elhaby	M. Raled	Owner	Salim	49.5
8- A. Eliaf Salim	Mirwir	Owner	Salim	49.5
9- Hamed El Jameary	H. Maryam	Owner	Mousa	49.5
10- Nalef Aly A. Soutout	Maha	Owner	Mousa	49.5
11- Khalid Mohammad	Shamsih	Owner	Salih	52.5
12- Haroon Dalfallah	Elitra	Owner	Salih	52.5

### SECOND RACE - 3:00 p.m.

For beginners

Distance 1000 metres

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Shibly Awad El Falez	M. Wasfy	Owner	Mousa	52.5
2- Fahid Miliak	Elanka	Owner	Yousef	52.5
3- Damin A. El Azeez	Khadhijh	Owner	Mostafa	52.5
4- A. El Sattar Matar	Jihad	Owner	Mahmoud	48
5- Salim A. El Karem	Shannin	Owner	Rashed	48.5
6- Fahid Nashem El Falez	Ghadeer	Owner	Ahmad	48.5
7- Mahmoud A. El Hady	Dhalbith	Owner	Ahmad	48.5
8- DARI ISREIL	AL-NAEIDA	Owner	A. Raw'a	48.5
9- Abdullah Ayash	Fadya	Owner	Fawaz	48.5
10- Saleem Ayed	Yours	Owner	Sulman	48.5
11- Khalil Sulman	Kaib	Owner	Sulman	52.5
12- Mohammad Yousef	M. Bashir	Owner	Sulman	52.5

### THIRD RACE - 3:30 p.m.

For Third Class Horses

Distance 1400 metres

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Mohammad Ahmad	Fahid Miliak	Owner	Saad	53.5
2- Ziad Abboud	Shahrazad	Owner	Salim	51.5
3- Mohammad A. El Hady	F. Naour	Owner	A. Raw'a	51.5
4- Talab A. El Kadir	D. Elshakar	Owner	Mostafa	50
5- Hakef A. Ibraiz	Silab	Owner	Mostafa	49.5
6- Mohammad A. El Naby	Sholah	Owner	Dalfallah	49.5
7- A. El Sattar Matar	J. Elshakar	Owner	Yousef	49.5
8- Abbas El Adwan	El Balta	Owner	Yousef	49.5
9- Odih El Kalay	Kawakib	Owner	Yousef	48

### FOURTH RACE - 4:00 p.m.

For Beginners

Distance 1600 metres

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Fahid Miliak	Mansour	Owner	Yousef	53
2- Mamdouh El Hady	Bayan	Owner	Yousef	51.5
3- Samy Yacoub	F. Ziad	Owner	Yousef	51
4- Samy Yacoub	Mahasin	Owner	Mostafa	49.5
5- Samy Haddadin	S. Amman	Owner	Mostafa	49.5
6- Nidal B. El Hady	Ward	Owner	Yousef	48
7- Nimir El Hmoud	Ion El Reeh	Owner	Ahmad	48.5
8- Hany El Hady	Drobah	Owner	Ahmad	48.5
9- Hany K. Bisharat	M. El Raheem	Owner	Ahmad	48.5

### JORDANIAN-FRENCH INSURANCE COMPANY CUP

FIFTH RACE - 4:30 p.m.

For Third Class horses

Distance 1600 metres

Owner	Horse	Trainer	Jockey	Weight
1- Samy Haddadin	Wadah	Owner	57	
2- Samy Haddadin	A. Samra	Owner	58	
3- Ghailb Haddadin	Rable	Owner	52	
4- A. Eliaf El Hadeed	Tarad	Owner	52	
5- A. Eliaf El Hadeed	Abeer	Owner	51.5	
6- Falest Awad El Falez	Husam	Owner	51	
7- Mamdouh El Hadeed	Motifah	Owner	51.5	
8- Hany El Hadeed	Malek	Owner	48.5	



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(Colour)  
Performances: 12:3 - 5:30-8

### Cinema RAINBOW

Tel: 25155

"SMOKE SHOULD NOT ESCAPE"  
(Arabic)

(Colour)  
3:30 6:00 8:30 10:30 p.m.

### Cinema ZAHARAN

Tel: 23171

THE CASE

(Colour)  
Performances: 12:3 - 5:30-8

### Cinema OPERA

UNCOMMON VALOUR

(Colour)  
Abdali, behind ALIA offices

### Cinema PALESTINE

Tel: 22117

TRISHOOL  
Indian

SUMMER LOVERS  
American (Colour)  
Performances: 12:3-7

### Cinema RAGHADAN

Tel: 22198

THE BORDERS  
(Colour)

"Arabic Film"  
(Colour)  
Performances: 12:3-5:30-8



## Syria makes new oil find

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria has found oil deposits in the northeast of the country which diplomatic sources say could help it maintain its position as a net oil exporter.

One well has already been drilled by Pecten Syria, a U.S. subsidiary of the Shell group, in an area near the Syrian-Iraqi border, and drilling on another two is under way, the sources said.

Syrian officials declined to give details of the discovery, made early this month, but said prospects looked good.

Unofficial estimates have put potential output of the new wells at 300,000 barrels a day (b/d), but the sources said a more realistic figure would be around 100,000 b/d.

They said the type of crude discovered was similar to Saudi Ara-

bian light, rather than the heavy crude found in most of Syria's other major oilfields, making it more suitable for domestic refining.

Syrian officials have put the capacity of the country's refineries at 220,000 barrels a day.

Syria has relatively small oil reserves — estimated at 1.5 billion barrels at end-1982 — but has managed to preserve a small surplus of crude exports over imports.

Last year it imported six million tonnes of crude oil from Iran under an agreement tied to its support for Tehran in the Gulf war and its closure of a pipeline to carry Iraqi crude to refineries and export terminals on the Mediterranean.

Syria also exported some eight

million tonnes of its own heavier crude oil last year.

The agreement with Tehran was renewed recently at the concessionary rate of about \$25 a barrel for Iranian crude in return for and guaranteed exports of Syrian textiles to Iran, the diplomatic sources said.

Syria is a member of the Organisation of Arab Petroleum Exporting Countries (OAPEC), but not the wider and more influential Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC).

The official Syrian News Agency SANA said OAPEC's Secretary General Ali Attiga held talks Tuesday night with Syrian Oil Minister Ghazi Al Droubi, but it gave no details of the discussions.

## Arab ministers urge EC to open markets

DAMASCUS (R) — Arab industry and development ministers Wednesday urged the European Community (EC) to remove obstacles to exports of Arab products to European markets.

The appeal came in a statement at the end of a two-day meeting here of ministers or deputy ministers from 21 Arab countries and a delegation from the Palestine Liberation Organisation.

The statement, carried by the official Syrian News Agency SANA, said the ministers also called for formation of an Arab economic bloc.

"Each Arab country cannot build up its economy on its own... efforts should be made to form a common bloc able to compete with similar blocs elsewhere in the world," it said.

"We also urge the European Community to open its market to Arab goods and remove obstacles it has put in the face of these products," it added.

The community imposed a 13.5 per cent tariff on imports of Saudi Arabian methanol in June, saying the kingdom had exhausted its quota.

The move aroused considerable anger in Saudi Arabia, which earlier this month imposed a 20 per cent duty on imports of electric cables in what economists in the kingdom saw as retaliation for the European move.

### Capital outflow raises dilemma

Meanwhile, outflows of private capital from Gulf countries are causing problems for the region's central banks and putting upward pressure on domestic interest rates, according to bankers and economists in the Gulf.

The outflows have placed Gulf financial authorities in a severe dilemma and may force them to choose between a deeply held principle of free capital movement and policies of low domestic interest rates and fixed or managed exchange rates.

High U.S. interest rates, a rising American economy and the strong dollar have lured capital into the U.S. currency.

Political uncertainty caused by the four-year-old Iran-Iraq war and falling oil revenues, which have led to weakness in domestic economies and a consequent dearth of investment opportunities at home, have contributed to the outflow.

Mr. Henry Azzam, economist with the Bahrain-based United Gulf Bank, said: "Gulf currencies are coming under pressure against

the dollar and liquidity problems are beginning to surface."

In a monthly newsletter, he said the liquidity shortages are leading to cash-flow problems for businesses in some of the countries including Saudi Arabia, where some construction firms face severe debt troubles.

The situation is illustrated by the sharp slowing in money growth, and even contraction of money supply in some countries.

The most striking example is in Kuwait, where the crash of its stock markets has had a continuing effect on financial behaviour.

There, narrowly-defined money supply fell 21 per cent in the year to August.

In Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates (UAE), M-1 has shown no growth in two years, while latest available statistics suggest the same may be true of Saudi Arabia.

In some of the states banks are contributing to pressure on the local currency and draining domestic markets of funds.

In the UAE, where the central bank has recently taken action to stem bank purchases of dollars, commercial banks' foreign assets grew 5.6 per cent in the first quarter of the year to constitute around 46 per cent of total assets. Foreign liabilities dropped 18.5

per cent in the same period.

In Kuwait, where banks face a struggle to find good quality assets at home, foreign assets doubled their share in commercial bank portfolios in the first six months of the year.

In a bid to attract local currency deposits, banks in some countries are bidding up rates offered to depositors.

United Gulf Bank's Azzam added: "Commercial banks in Kuwait, UAE and Bahrain started to raise gradually their lending rates beyond officially-agreed levels in order to be able to pay higher rates to depositors, reduce the differential with dollar rates and attract more deposits."

In the UAE, a central bank scheme to issue negotiable paper to stem the conversion by banks of dirhams into foreign currencies has stalled after criticism by bankers.

But earlier this month the central bank said it would deny the use of its swap facilities to commercial banks which ran foreign currency positions against the dirham.

Bankers say the small exchange risk in transferring funds into dollars from local currencies has encouraged outflows from the Gulf states.

All Gulf currencies are closely tied to the dollar. With oil revenues down, governments are unlikely to revalue their currencies much, even if the dollar slid on world markets.

But if the dollar rises, currency depreciations such as those taking place against the dollar in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait work in favour of the buyer of dollars.

The currencies of Bahrain, the UAE, Qatar and Oman have been pegged against the dollar since 1980 or earlier.

Depreciation of these currencies has been regarded as politically unacceptable, and there is a genuine fear that a devaluation would encourage further outflows.

The difficulties for central banks are aggravated by the limited number of monetary policy tools available to them.

Even in Kuwait, where the central bank issues bills, and in Saudi Arabia where the monetary agency introduced negotiable instruments in February, lack of a secondary market restricts their effectiveness.

Economists say that unless the states move to restrict capital outflows, which bankers think highly unlikely, the only solution would be to give up trying to control so many economic variables. That would imply market exchange rates or interest rates or both.

## Fish, wine hinder progress on Spanish, Portuguese entry to EC

LUXEMBOURG (R) — Problems over fish and wine have hit chances of rapid progress in talks on Spanish and Portuguese entry to the European Community (EC).

Community foreign and farm ministers ended two days of talks here Tuesday in disagreement among themselves over what terms to offer the two applicants on fisheries and wine.

There was disappointment that after a breakthrough agreement earlier this week on a "mini-package" of entry conditions on other issues, the seven-year talks had bogged down yet again.

Diplomats said Portuguese Prime Minister Mario Soares and current community chairman Mr. Peter Barry, the Irish foreign min-

ister, will sign a joint statement outlining the degree of agreement reached so far later this week in Dublin.

The statement was described by diplomats as a new expression of commitment to Portugal's future membership, due alongside Spain's on Jan. 1, 1986.

But the diplomats said deep divisions on details of the outstanding issues overshadowed expressions of good intention.

"This is classical. Everybody agrees that enlargement will strengthen the West in Europe. But when it comes to practical concessions, everything turns grim," one diplomat said. "This is a community of sharks."

Diplomats are now hoping an almost continuous series of con-

tacts at all levels over the next few weeks will give the entry talks momentum.

This could then pave the way for an overall agreement at decisive talks at the end of November, they said.

They said although talks within the community on Spain's access to group fishing waters and on containing runaway wine production before and after accession were deadlocked, most delegations now realised that concessions would have to be made.

West Germany in particular is worried that further delays in the talks could influence adversely a scheduled poll on Spain's continued membership of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, the diplomats said.

## American economic growth slows down

WASHINGTON (R) — New signs of a slowdown in the American economy emerged Tuesday as the Commerce Department announced a 4.3 per cent fall in orders for durable goods in September.

The larger than expected drop, coupled with fresh indications of falling U.S. interest rates, pulled the dollar down sharply to its lowest in almost three weeks on foreign exchange in New York and Europe.

It was the largest fall since April in orders for U.S. durable goods, which cover items such as cars and machinery, and economists said it raised doubts about the current extent of America's economic growth, which has kept interest rates and the dollar at very high levels.

But the Reagan administration shrugged off the figures and Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige said the drop was largely due to a brief strike at General Motors car plants and a sharp fall in volatile orders for defence goods.

A cut in prime lending rate to 12-1/4 per cent by the first National Bank of Minneapolis also helped the dollar's decline. Dealers noted that most major banks are still posting a 12-1/2 per cent rate to their most creditworthy customers, but said they expected further falls very soon.

### LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — The market closed quietly easier with operators awaiting the U.K. pit supervisors' decision on their strike due to start Thursday, dealers said.

Prices drifted from their opening highs on lack of follow-through buying and at 1430 GMT the FTSE 100 index was down 3.2 at 1,125.1 after a peak of 1,133.3 at 0845 GMT. ICI fell 2p to 670 after 674 ahead of third quarter results Thursday, and Beecham was 5p easier at 358 after 363.

Government bonds lost up to 1/4 point despite sterling's strength, having opened 1/2 point higher. North Americans were mixed and gold shares firm.

Government bonds showed little initial reaction to the U.K. September trade figures, which showed a larger than expected £764 million deficit. Dealers said however, they expected prices may be marked even lower than closing levels in afterhours trading.

Hawker Siddeley moved against the trend showing an 8p gain at 395 on buying after its recent decline. TI group ended 2p up at 210 after 216, while Thorn EMI fell 5p at 413.

Banks closed below best levels with Barclays up 3p at 512 after 517 and Lloyds 7p higher at 499 after 502. Lower insurances showed Royal off 8p at 483, while oils remained subdued with B.P. down 4p at 471 and Shell off 5p at 643.

### LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One sterling	1.2163/73	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3143/48	Canadian dollars
	3.0315/25	West German marks
	3.4215/25	Dutch guilders
	2.4910/20	Swiss francs
	61.37/40	Belgian francs
	9.2975/3025	French francs
	1881.00/1883.00	Italian lire
	244.43/53	Japanese yen
	8.6200/6300	Swedish crowns
	8.8060/8160	Norwegian crowns
	10.9575/9675	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	340.25/340.75	U.S. dollars



BAHRAIN — Arab Financial Services (AFS) is to commence operations on Dec. 1 with the launch of a dollar denominated travellers cheque which, the company says, is set to take the second largest share of the U.S. \$2 billion Arab World market within 12 months, and to become the most widely circulated cheque within two years. AFS is the first Arab company to offer travellers cheque throughout the Arab World. Photo pictures (left to right) AFS General Manager Medhat Sadek, Mokhtar Fakfakh, president and general manager, Banque Internationale Arabe de Tunisie; Abdul Rahman S. Touqan, deputy general manager, Jordan National Bank; Wajih

Sirri Al Kaylani, general manager, Bank of Credit and Commerce International; Ibrahim Al Ibrahim, deputy chairman of AFS, and chairman of Arab African International Bank, AFS Chairman Abdullah A. Saudi and president and chief executive, Arab Banking Corporation; Ayoub Farid M. Saab, deputy chairman, Federal Bank of the Middle East; Hikmat S. Nashashibi, chief executive, Al Mal group; Abdul Rahman Al Rajhi; Al Rajhi Commercial Establishment for Exchange; Abdullah A. Al Ghurair, general manager, Bank of Oman; Hedi Ouereffelli, general manager, Arab Bank for Investment and Foreign Trade, UAE.

**THE BETTER HALF.** By Harris

**JUMBLE.** THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

KNACS  
LAROF  
LUGGEJ  
CEPPIT

WHAT HE WHO LAUGHS LAST OFTEN DOESN'T DO.

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here:  THE

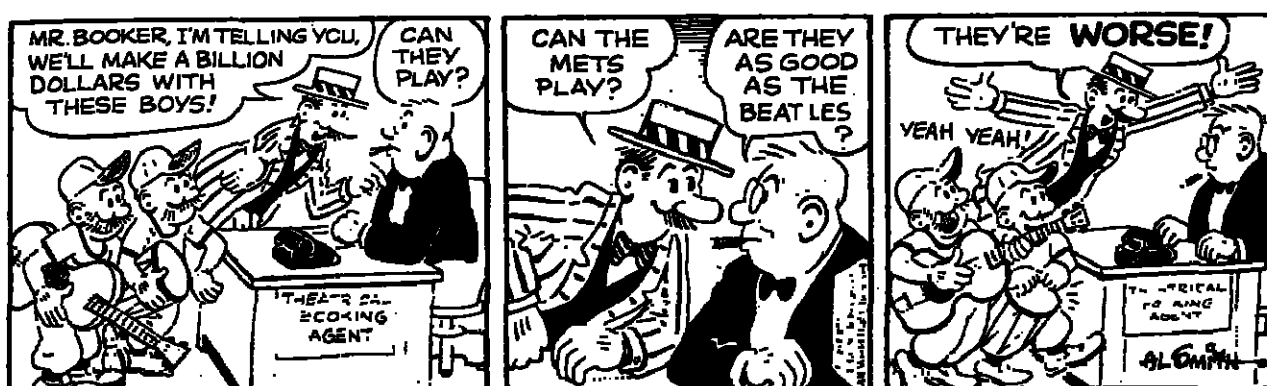
(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: GRIME FAINT GLOOMY DRUDGE  
Answer: The coffee tycoon decided to retire because he couldn't stand this — THE DAILY "GRIND"

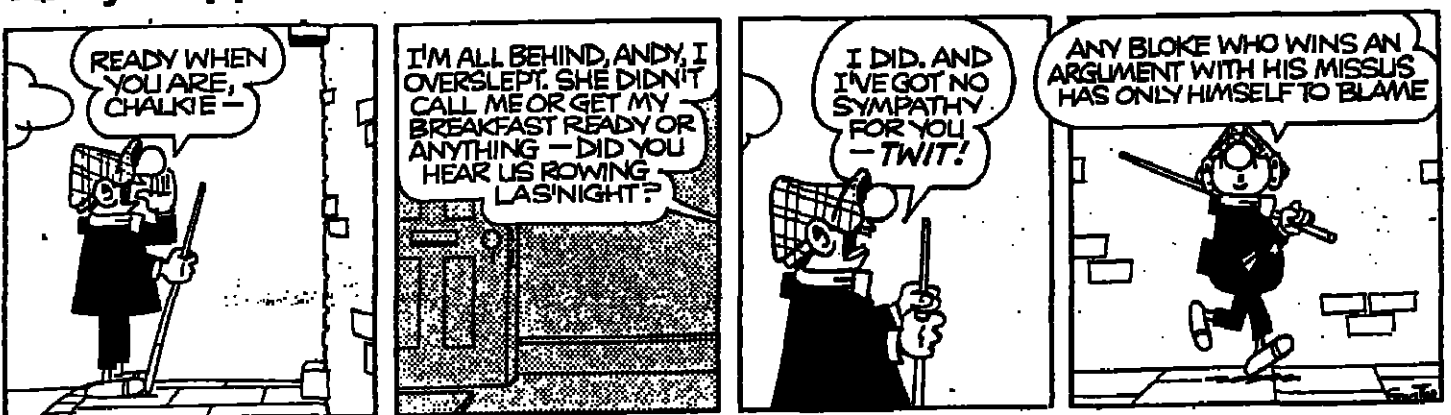
### Peanuts



### Mutt 'n' Jeff



### Andy Capp



## YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

### FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, OCT. 25, 1984

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Whatever is mysterious to you, you now will be able to ferret out the true facts and then be in a position to handle it.

**ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19)** Your practical affairs may not work out as swiftly as you like. Don't get upset and carry through to a good ending.

**TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20)** Partners may be as super-stubborn as you today, but sensible conversation brings about an agreement.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 21)** Get right to work in the morning and gain the right benefits so that you can get out of that tight spot you're in.

**MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21)** Some entertainment you usually like can be boring today, but don't shut it off because you're in a temporary bad mood.

**LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21)** You may have to apply more effort if you want to improve the condition at home. Persevere with kin and all will be fine.

**VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22)** Be careful in motion of all kind, especially in the morning. Seek out persons who can be of help to you in business.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)** Study how best to economize and be careful with new investments. Don't neglect to call on a good relative.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)** Be more thoughtful of the feelings of others and don't be forceful. Be more cooperative with others' plans.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)** It is important that you make the right plans if you are to gain what you most want in the days ahead.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20)** You have good hunches who is best for you to contact to be of assistance in gaining personal aims. Follow through.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19)** Confer with bigwigs about improving your status in the community in which you dwell. Do some volunteer work.

**PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20)** Try to look into more profitable interests and get away from dull routines. Bigwigs can be of help.

**IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ...** he or she will have a penchant for working on matters that others are apt to find difficult. Slant the education along investigative lines. One who will delve into varying philosophies, so provide good books very early.

### FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 1984

**GENERAL TENDENCIES:** Until noon there can be considerable confusion about the best means by which you acquire data. Later, happy influences enter the picture and all works out well.

**ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19)** Study some obligation well before you handle it. Be alert to the fine progress that can be made during the day.

**TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20)** You find an agreement confusing, but by further study, all ends up all right. Pursue romance in the evening.

**GEMINI (May 21 to June 21)** Get rid of problems at work. Much pleasure can be yours in the outside world after lunch. Have concern for kin in the evening.

**MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21)** Get busy at work and accomplish a good deal. Although creativity is not very high, your efforts pay off.

**LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21)** Try not to disturb the harmony at home in any way. Take your loved one along at some special amusement and have some fun.

**VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22)** Don't get confused by some communication you receive during the morning. Invite guests in for the evening.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22)** Handle a confusing financial affair early. Then visit with persons who have done you big favors. Drive carefully.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21)** Make sure you are not forceful in going after a personal aim or you lose out. Study your financial status for possible improvements.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21)** A private anxiety could deter some vital interest in the morning. Meet with helpful persons that you like.

**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20)** Do what you can to soothe a friend who is disturbed. Later, make that plan to gain your finest aims.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19)** You may have a problem to solve in the morning, but be patient and it is soon accomplished.

**PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20)** Confer with a bigwig who can help you to get ahead. Get your work done with a flair and feel satisfied tonight.

**IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ...** he or she will want to delve into matters that have a hidden meaning and will be able to decipher them admirably. Equip with a fine education. There will be much travel in this lifetime, so add foreign language study.



# U.S. urges prosecution of Aquino assassins

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. government, closely watching the reaction by Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos to inquiry findings on the murder of his political foe Benigno Aquino, has called for the prosecution of those responsible.

State Department Spokesman John Hughes declined to comment specifically on a report by four of the five members of an investigating commission who named Philippine Armed Forces' chief Gen. Fabian Ver as one of three generals, 22 other military men and a civilian involved.

But he said: "We trust that as President Marcos has promised, those responsible for Senator Aquino's murder, no matter who they may be, will be held accountable for this terrible crime."

The four gave their findings to Mr. Marcos Wednesday. The panel's chairman, Corazon Aquino, Tuesday night handed him her separate report which said one general and six non-

commissioned officers were involved but did not implicate Gen. Ver.

How Mr. Marcos acts on the majority report is certain to affect his standing in the United States, especially in Congress which holds the purse strings on U.S. aid for the Philippines.

The findings came days after President Reagan said in a televised debate with Democratic challenger Walter Mondale that the overthrow of the Marcos government would lead to a Communist regime hostile to American interests in the Pacific.

U.S. officials will be watching carefully to see how Mr. Marcos, who heads one of Washington's most important Pacific allies, reacts to the report implicating Gen. Ver.

Judge Agrava said she found evidence of a military conspiracy. But she concluded that Brigadier-General Luther Custodio was chiefly responsible for the conspiracy which also involved six non-commissioned officers who escorted Sen. Aquino when he was shot at Manila Airport last year.

Mr. Marcos suspended Gen. Custodio from duty and suspended and restricted to barracks his six subordinates. He said they would be tried by special civilian courts. The White House declined comment on the Aquino inquiry Tuesday and referred questions to the State Department.

In Manila the widow of Sen. Aquino said Wednesday she believed President Ferdinand Marcos had approved the plot to murder her husband.

"I have no concrete proof," Corazon Aquino told a press conference, "but based on our experience the military could not have done anything without (Marcos's) knowledge or support."



Gen. Fabian Ver

Nothing could have been done regarding 'Ninoy' (Aquino's nickname) without Marcos's approval. Are we now to believe that Mr. Marcos is innocent of the death of Ninoy in the hands of the military under his control?

"Are we now going to believe that the assassination of Ninoy was planned and executed without Marcos's foreknowledge or expressed approval?" she said.

# Top ranking Salvadorean field commander killed

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP) — Lt. Col. Domingo Monterrosa, considered by many the army's top field commander, was killed Tuesday with three other top-ranking officers and seven military men when their helicopter crashed in guerrilla-dominated territory, an armed forces spokesman said.

Col. Ricardo Cienfuegos told a news conference that the crash was "almost certainly" due to mechanical failure. He said there was no fighting in the area at the time of the crash.

But the rebels' clandestine radio said the helicopter was shot down by the air force. Col. Monterrosa and the others were riding.

Col. Cienfuegos said the dead included Col. Napoleon Heron Calitio, who headed the Commandos Brigade in north eastern Morazan province, Maj. Jose Armando Azmitia, commander of the 1,200-man, U.S.-trained Atlacatl Battalion, and Maj. Nelson Alejandro Rivas.

He said everyone on board the helicopter was killed.

Venceremos said guerrilla machine gunners had crept close to government positions in the town of Jateca, 199 kilometres north east of the capital, Tuesday afternoon and shot down the UH-1H "Huey" helicopter shortly after it took off from a launching pad.

The radio said Col. Monterrosa and four other "top-ranking officers" were killed in the crash. A telephone operator at the San Miguel garrison, headquarters for the 3rd Infantry Brigade commanded by Col. Monterrosa, said: "We cannot take any calls. We are in a state of emergency. Only emergency calls."

Col. Carlos Reynaldo Lopez Nula, the deputy defence minister for public security, told the Associated Press that the helicopter crashed in Morazan but had not been shot down.

He said four military men were confirmed killed — the pilot and co-pilot and two door gunners operating M-60 machine guns mounted on the craft. He said others might have been aboard.

# Spain to hold referendum on NATO membership

MADRID (R) — Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez has ended months of speculation by announcing a 1986 referendum on the country's membership of NATO and saying he favours staying in the alliance.

Speaking to parliament at the opening of a three-day debate on his government's policies Tuesday, the Socialist leader also called for a gradual reduction of U.S. forces stationed in Spain and for the recovery of the British colony of Gibraltar.

Spanish leader had clearly spelled out his views on NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organisation) membership, which his Socialist Workers' Party (PSOE) has traditionally opposed.

The referendum will be the first ever held by a NATO country on its continued membership of the alliance.

# Papandreou: Sanctions against Poland hurt peace

WARSAW (R) — Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreou, ending the first visit of a NATO government leader to Poland since martial law, has said U.S.-led sanctions against Warsaw do not help the cause of peace in Europe.

"We are convinced that those restrictions, applied by the U.S. and some Western countries, aim to create a disequilibrium in Poland, situated in the centre of Europe," the Polish News Agency PAP quoted Mr. Papandreou as saying.

# Defence writer foresees new war over Falklands

LONDON (R) — Britain and Argentina could fight again over the Falkland Islands inside 10 years, and a second conflict could well escalate into a nuclear exchange, according to a British defence writer.

Adrian English, writing in a book on Latin American armed forces published Thursday, said Argentina's defeat by Britain in 1982 had pushed the country nearer to gaining nuclear weapons.

# New missile unveiled at French arms exhibition

PARIS (R) — A new submarine-launched version of the Exocet missile — and an updated ship-based weapons system designed to destroy it — are among exhibits at a naval equipment fair which opened at Le Bourget, north of Paris.

More than 80 companies are displaying a wide range of weaponry and related technology at the five-day event, staged every two years as a "shop window" for the latest in French naval warfare equipment. The French Defence Ministry has invited delegations from 59 countries.

# Reagan faces hecklers in New York

NEW YORK (AP) — President Ronald Reagan faced vigorous hecklers chanting "warmonger" and "liar" at a west coast rally Tuesday, as Democrat Walter Mondale told voters in the Midwest that the Republican incumbent is trying to associate himself with "any Democrat who is dead."

Mr. Mondale, still trailing in the polls after two debates with Reagan, admitted that the Carter-Mondale administration had failed to help financially strapped steel companies, but added that the industry has suffered even more under Mr. Reagan.

# South Africa warns against sanctions

PRETORIA (R) — South African Foreign Minister P. W. Botha said Wednesday that any United Nations economic sanctions against his country would hurt African states to think twice before supporting punitive measures.

Mr. Botha was replying to reporters' questions following a U.N. Security Council resolution Tuesday demanding the immediate eradication of apartheid. All governments were asked to take action to "assist the oppressed people of South Africa in their legitimate struggle for the right to self-determination."

# China seeks halt to space weapons

PEKING (R) — China has demanded that Washington and Moscow stop development of "star wars" space weapons in its first draft resolution on disarmament to the United Nations, the New China News Agency said Wednesday.

The draft resolution asked the General Assembly to reaffirm that space would be used only for peaceful purposes, the official news agency reported from the United Nations.

China, which has its own land-based and submarine nuclear deterrent and is a permanent member of the U.N. Security Council, has repeatedly attacked the United States and the Soviet Union as the main protagonists in the arms race.

The news agency said China also asked the conference on disarmament to make prevention of a space arms race a matter of urgency and proposed the conference should set up a special committee to deal with the problem at the start of its 1985 meeting.

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# COLUMNS 7 & 8

## Fewer Britons seek divorce

LONDON (R) — Fewer people filed for divorce in Britain last year, according to figures out Wednesday, but the fall in petitions may only reflect a steady decline in marriages over the past 20 years, legal sources said. Statistics from the office of the Lord Chancellor, the senior law officer for England and Wales, showed petitions for divorce dropped by 5,000 in 1983 to 168,428, their lowest level since 1979. But one in three marriages still ends in divorce. Three out of four petitions were filed by wives. Unreasonable behaviour by a spouse and adultery rated as the main motives for seeking legal separation. Britain has one of the highest divorce rates in the world. In 1982, the last year for which figures were available, 342,000 couples were wed. In the same year, 147,763 divorces were granted.

## Austrian actor dies at 61

MARBURG, West Germany (R) — Austrian Actor Oskar Werner died of a heart attack Tuesday after cancelling a lecture in the West German town of Marburg Monday because he was feeling ill. Werner, 61, was a highly acclaimed theatre actor in Austria and other German-speaking countries in the 1940s and became known internationally after starring in several films in the 1950s and 60s, such as Jules et Jim by French director Francois Truffaut who himself died on Sunday. Police said Werner suffered a heart attack in a Marburg hotel and died on his way to hospital.

## Residents protest against crematory

CHICAGO, Illinois (AP) — About 50 people demonstrated outside a funeral home Sunday to protest a recently installed crematory, which they said pollutes their neighbourhood with the stench of burning bodies. "We don't like the idea that while we're barbecuing in the backyard, he's burning bodies," said neighbourhood resident Elaine Herzog. The crematory was installed last spring in a one story brick garage behind Rago Brothers Funeral Home on the city's near north west side. Neighbours said they found out about it when they smelled a foul odor in mid-August. The residents won a restraining order to keep funeral home operator Louis Rago from using the crematory because of a lack of necessary permits. City Alderman Wallace Davis Jr. said. The order remains in effect, but a Zoning Appeals Board has granted a variance allowing the crematory to operate.

## No riding on roof in Indian metro

NEW DELHI (R) — India Tuesday banned drunks, smokers, protesters — and people riding on the roof — from the country's first underground railway. A presidential order issued ahead of the opening, possibly later this month, of the first stretch of the Calcutta Metro said offenders would be fined or jailed. The ban on riding on the roof of a metro train is to foil a popular way of avoiding fares on surface trains. Passengers crouch half-upright on the roof of carriages to avoid detection by ticket collectors. They lie prone when the trains pass through a tunnel.

## Acid throwers to get capital punishment

DHAKA (R) — Bangladesh will soon introduce the death penalty for people found guilty of throwing acid following a spate of such attacks on women, an official has said. At least 27 girls were sprayed with acid in Dhaka last month, according to official records. Police sealed off an acid factory in the southern port of Chittagong last month, suspecting its stocks were being pilfered by criminals and jilted lovers to use in attacks on women.

# GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
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## COOPERATING ON DEFENSE

Neither vulnerable. East deals.

**NORTH**  
♠ J986  
♥ 3  
♦ AKQ53  
♣ KQ5

**WEST**  
♠ A5  
♥ 95  
♦ 987642  
♣ AJ7

**EAST**  
♠ K72  
♥ AQ108642  
♦ Void  
♣ 632

The bidding:  
East South West North  
1♥ Pass 1NT Dble  
2♥ 2♣ 3♥ 4♣  
Pass Pass Dble Pass  
Pass Pass  
Opening lead: Nine of ♥.

Peter Weichsel, Miami Beach, Fla., and Mike Lawrence, Kensington, Calif., won the Men's Pairs at the recent Spring North American Championships held in San Antonio, Texas. Weichsel is a reigning world team champion and has won many major pair events, but for Lawrence, a former world team champion, this is his first national pairs title.

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# THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Ertzmann

**ACROSS**

1. Indeterminate number
2. Dismayed
3. Broke
4. Hells or lit
5. Hells or lit
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98. Hells or lit
99. Hells or lit
100. Hells or lit

**DOWN**

1. Shred the text
2. Intensive
3. Like a mass
4. O.J.
5. Compensate
6. London letterhead abbr.
7. Antiseptic
8. Family circle member
9. Voice voice
10. Shown
11. Sports outfit
12. Superlative
13. Indian prince
14. Shrub land
15. Rehearsal
16. Substance
17. The sp. part of beards
18. New — us
19. Enter
20. Red leader
21. Meets jubilant
22. Art. index
23. Like a mass
24. O.J.
25. Compensate
26. London letterhead abbr.
27. Antiseptic
28. Family circle member
29. Voice voice
30. Shown
31. Sports outfit
32. Superlative
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96. Substance
97. The sp. part of beards
98. New — us
99. Enter
100. Red leader

## Diagrams

19 x 19, by Neil McCarthy

**ACROSS**

1. Leader
2. Waterway
3. Temple trust
4. Giver as proof
5. Nucleus
6. Vehicle
7. Seaport
8. Brings up
9. Persevered
10. Lines of
11. Braided tapes
12. Hang down
13. — undraining
14. Like Indians
15. Sing the
16. Prayers of
17. Mystery
18. A hero of a
19. Flat hats
20. Consumed
21. Hail or smart
22. Grandiose
23. poetry
24. Repair a lawn
25. Glazed brick
26. Scent back
27. Strange
28. One's uncle
29. Busybody
30. Worldwide scientific period. abbr.
31. Soak flux
32. Up
33. Ligation
34. Vanished rears
35. Team up
36. Heavy reading
37. Pitch
38. Turn aside
39. Outdoor living
40. Having hearing
41. organs
42. Bellowed
43. 54 Cpt
44. 54 Cpt
45. 54 Cpt
46. 54 Cpt
47. 54 Cpt
48. 54 Cpt
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## CRYPTOGRAMS

1. CREATOR DEUS UDT STORY YBEL 'NZACYN PN; E DRY NZAEUNI DSNR USNH SBRINI TCU PH BAANYTTOENTY' —By Connie Rosenfeld

2. NSA WENSA WLSH LCC EKSAW LUN UNCLESOR. FRE FRECU WLSH LCC UNCLESORW LUN EKSAW. —By Maure Marcus

3. DYES CHICTRUND CT NYLI KRE CICTLS KYG FORC ET STY RTG FUDO GT LICICKILY —By Norton Rhoades

4. XYZ ALOT XYZAPLST AERY STY OPLZSVQ QPLST EOS ZESTYZ OZLRVQ. —By Philip Brennan

**Answers to last week's crossword**

1. Same sick salesman who sold ice cubes to susceptible Eskimos now pitches furniture to Floridians.  
2. "Take me out to the ball game" who we ask to be in on a "taming contest".  
3. Some women's hairdos seem to be dressed with an egg-beater.  
4. Leveller dove lives above red robin's nest in tall tree.